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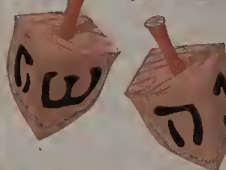
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Joe Schlesinger: 'it is our sacred duty to nurture the good that lies in all of us'

By Benita Baker

More than 600 people filled the Hellenic Centre to hear veteran CBC journalist Joe Schlesinger launch Holocaust Education Week with a message of hope and a call to foster tolerance. The event, November 9, took place on the 71st anniversary of Kristallnacht, as well as the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

A child survivor of the Holo-

caust, Schlesinger spoke of the memories of pain and loss experienced by those who lived through the war. He lamented the eradication of a European Jewish culture that had contributed so much to European society and noted that, even as the reign of hate against Jews was growing, Einstein, Freud and Kafka were making their profound marks on civilization.

"They represented the spirit of a people that mass murder could not extinguish," said Schlesinger.

"It lives. It lives here in Canada, in North America, and, yes, for all the vicissitudes, it lives on in Europe, too. And that spirit shines most brightly in Israel ... a country whose fortitude, moral fibre and very existence are challenged daily."

Schlesinger was 11 and living in Czechoslovakia when the Nazis invaded. His parents, who did not survive the war, put him and his younger brother on the Kindertransport that took them out of the country to the relative safety of England for the duration of the war. Holding back tears, Schlesinger noted that the last letter the brothers received from their parents said, "May you grow up to be good and just men."

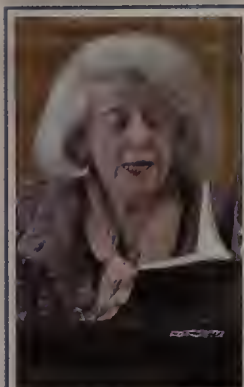
According to Schlesinger, the best revenge against Hitler is procreation. The 649 children saved by the Kindertransport have produced about 5,000 descendants.

"My parents, who died in the Holocaust, have five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren," he said.

(Continued on page 2)



Joe Schlesinger delivers the keynote address, November 9, opening Holocaust Education Week. (Photo: Peter Waiser)



Truda Rosenberg at Hillel Academy

Truda Rosenberg visited with students at Hillel Academy, November 4. She read from *Unmasked*, her recently published book about her experiences surviving the Holocaust, and answered students' questions.

(Photo: Jared Isaacson)

Brigitte Gabriel: Controversial speaker warns of threat from radical Islam

By Cynthia Nyman Engel

"The world did not wake up until September 11, 2001. Only after September 11, did the world ask, 'Why do they hate us? Why do they attack us?' Until then, the world was not paying attention, not connecting the dots," said Brigitte Gabriel.

Gabriel, a Lebanese-born, Christian-Arab journalist, author, activist and outspoken critic of radical Islam, told the personal story that led to her own stand against radical

Islam when she delivered the keynote address, November 5, at the third annual *Choices* event presented by the Women's Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

Gabriel began her remarks by recalling the halcyon days of 1940s Lebanon.

"Most people actually think that Lebanon is just another Muslim country," she said. "It is now, but this is not the way it used to be. We didn't have any oil, but we had brains and we valued the education

of men and women alike because our culture, being the Judeo-Christian culture, was influenced by the teachings in our Bible."

But, within 30 years, the numbers began to shift and Muslims became the majority.

"Christians marry one spouse until death do us part," she said. "Muslims are allowed to marry up to four wives at a time. Not all do, but those who do have a lot of children — 10 to 15 to our two, three or four."

Gabriel pointed out that Osama Bin Laden, "the most famous Muslim in the world today," is one of 53 children and has fathered 27 of his own.

"Between him and his father, they have produced 80 children," she said. "And we're not talking yet about his other 52 brothers and sisters. This is a problem we are facing throughout all the world and especially industrialized societies."

According to Gabriel, Lebanon's (Continued on page 2)

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Multiculturalism promotes communication, understanding

(Continued from page 1)

Schlesinger regrets that the world continues to experience violence and oppression. He talked about the rise of anti-Semitism, "that old malignant disease," not only in its traditional form, "the one that Hitler would have easily recognized," but also "a new sugar-coated guise," that takes the form of being anti-Israel.

"What makes this particularly insidious and, therefore, potentially more dangerous than the overt racism of nut bar skinheads is that it pretends not to be racist, but, rather, political and, therefore, rational and

respectable," said Schlesinger.

Schlesinger chastised Austria, which has "a history of anti-Semitism that rivals and, in some ways, even exceeds Germany's," for not facing up to its role in the Holocaust like Germany has. He is particularly upset by attitudes in Poland and Hungary, where anti-Semitism is rampant despite the fact that only one-half of one per cent of the population is Jewish.

"But, then, I guess, you don't really need to have a single Jew to bring out the racism in some people," said Schlesinger.

As for being critical of Israel,

Schlesinger says that's OK. Even some Israelis are critical. It is a problem faced by Jews and all people in the Diaspora. How far do you go in supporting your homeland?

"You and I are not in Israel having to cope with the fact that we could be killed at any moment, that there are people out there who keep on threatening to drive us into the sea," said Schlesinger. Citing the example of 1970's FLQ crisis in Quebec, he argued that, while we need not approve of everything Israel does, we must try to understand why Israelis act the way they do.

"Tanks and troops roamed the

streets of Quebec," he said. "Civil liberties were suspended. People were arrested arbitrarily. Canada was traumatized. Just try to imagine having a similar crisis just about constantly, year in and year out, with hundreds killed, and the perpetrators vowing to wipe the country off the face of the earth."

Schlesinger said that both the Palestinians and the Israelis have become hardened by the suffering caused by occupation and war.

"In the end, the world loves an underdog," he said. "So, the fact that the plight of the Palestinians has aroused wide sympathy, espe-

cially after the uneven contest of the Gaza war earlier this year, is not surprising."

Schlesinger praised Canadian multiculturalism for promoting communication and understanding and, ultimately, for allowing opposing groups to live together in peace.

"If there is anything the Holocaust has taught us," said Schlesinger, "it is that it is our sacred duty, particularly in a country of so many differing strands as ours, to foster mutual understanding and tolerance, and to nurture and cherish the good that lies in all of us."

Gabriel: 'They hate us because we are infidels'

(Continued from page 1)

already tense situation was aggravated when King Hussein threw the Palestinians out of Jordan in 1971.

"King Hussein killed more Palestinians in Black September than the State of Israel has killed in its existence," she said.

The Palestinians and Muslims in Lebanon, she said, joined forces and declared Holy War on the Christians.

"Yasir Arafat wanted to

create a base from which to fight the Jews, fight Israel, kill the Jews and drive them into the sea," she said. "They were able to use our democracy to stop our democracy, to destroy our country from within."

Gabriel and her parents lived in Marjayoun, a small town in south Lebanon, across the border from the Israeli town of Metulla and she was badly wounded when their home was bombed in 1975. To survive, she said, the

family moved into a cave where they lived for seven years without electricity, available water or food. During the last five years, Gabriel was taken to school by tank. "You sit 18 people in such a tank."

When her mother was wounded, it fell to Gabriel to accompany her to an Israeli hospital. She described it as a life-changing experience.

"My mother spent 22 days in that Israeli hospital and it was there I discovered that

the Arabic culture and people are fed a lie, a fabricated lie about the Jews," she said. "I knew if I was a Jew in this situation at an Arabic hospital that I would be lynched and thrown down to my death to shouts of joy and 'Allahu Akbar!'"

The family ultimately settled in Israel and her parents are buried on Mount Zion. From 1984 to 1989, Gabriel worked as a news anchor for *World News in the Middle East*. She said it was in 1989 that she began to see the rise of truly radical Islam and terrorism.

"I started realizing that the names of the terrorists were all the same: Achmed, Mohammed, Hahih ... and the names of the victims were always western Christians and Jews. And I began to realize that what I used to think was a regional problem between a



Brigitte Gabriel, November 5, at Choices event, warns of the threat from radical Islam. (Photo: Peter Walser)

majority Muslim Middle East trying to kill or expel the minority Christians and Jews had become a worldwide problem, but the world was not paying attention.

"I have a very simple answer for the world," said Gabriel, about radical Islam in the post-9/11 world. "They hate us because we are infidels. Unfortunately, I fear it's going to take the West a long time to learn these words."

After September 11, 2001, and, by then, a resident of the United States, Gabriel founded Act for America, to provide Americans with a means to be a collective voice for the democratic val-

ues of Western civilization, and against the threat of radical Islam. The organization has 78,000 members and 325 chapters.

"Anti-Semitism is on the rise," said Gabriel, who proudly wears a Lion of Judah pin. "It's 1939 all over again. People are burying their heads in the sand and saying 'Nah, Ahmadinejad doesn't really mean it. He's a crazy guy. He's just talking.'"

"No, he's not," said Gabriel about the Iranian president. "So I urge you to become more active in your community, because you don't have anybody but each other."

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Palestinian doctor who lost three daughters in Gaza war continues to work for Peace with Israel

By Michael Regenstreif

Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish suffered a tragedy during Israel's Operation Cast Lead in Gaza that would have embittered many. Instead, it strengthened his resolve as a leading advocate for peace and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians.

Abuelaish, a Palestinian obstetrician and gynecologist who worked at the Sheba Medical Center near Tel Aviv, and at hospitals in Gaza, was well known in Israel as an accomplished physician and peace advocate. A widower, he was at home with his eight children in Gaza on January 16

when Israeli tank fire struck his home. Three of his daughters and a niece were killed; another daughter and niece were seriously injured.

Fluent in Hebrew, Abuelaish was interviewed frequently in the Israeli media during the Gaza war and was scheduled to be interviewed by Israeli television moments after the attack took place. In tears, the doctor described to Israelis what had just taken place. Many analysts, including Abuelaish, have said the tragedy led to the ceasefire that came two days later.

The Harvard-trained Abuelaish recently moved to Canada with his five surviving children to become an associate professor at Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. He was in Ottawa on November 10 and spoke at a Potlucks for Peace event at Library and Archives Canada, moderated



Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, left, with moderator Ed Broadbent and Debi Parush, an Israeli-Canadian member of Potlucks for Peace.

(Photo: Michael Regenstreif)

by former NDP leader Ed Broadbent.

Abuelaish was movingly introduced by Debi Parush, an Israeli-Canadian active in Potlucks for Peace, an

Arab-Jewish dialogue group.

He spoke poignantly about the three daughters he lost. All were accomplished students with great potential. The oldest, Bessan, 20, was also a peace activist who, at age 14, had attended the Creativity for Peace Camp, an annual peace camp held in New Mexico for Israeli and Palestinian teenagers.

"I don't want anyone in the world to witness what I've seen," said Abuelaish about the attack that killed

his daughters, "but, as a Muslim, I believe that everything from God is for the good."

The "good" that Abuelaish says came from his daughters' deaths was that Israelis were able to recognize the toll the war was having on innocent civilians and reach the ceasefire with Hamas.

"When my house was shelled," he said, "it opened the eyes of the Israeli public. The ceasefire saved others' lives."

Rather than be consumed by hatred or thoughts of revenge, Abuelaish said that both Palestinians and Israelis need to look to the future.

"Forgiveness helps you move forward to the future. We need to discover the humanness inside all of us and need to understand and respect each other."

Both Palestinian and Is-

raeli leaders, said Abuelaish, must become risk takers in the peace process.

"They must have the moral courage to act."

Calling for the two-state solution, in which Israelis and Palestinians would work in partnership for the benefit of both countries, Abuelaish said its achievement was "not impossible ... We are similar. We are so close to each other."

Despite now being based in Canada, Abuelaish continues to work for peace between Israelis and Palestinians and to better the lives of his people.

To honour the memory of his daughters, he has established a foundation, Daughters for Life. Its goal is to provide education and medical care for women and girls in Gaza. A trilingual website - daughtersforlife.com - is available in Arabic, Hebrew and English.

Allan Taylor

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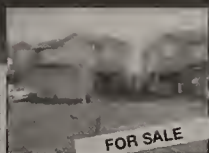
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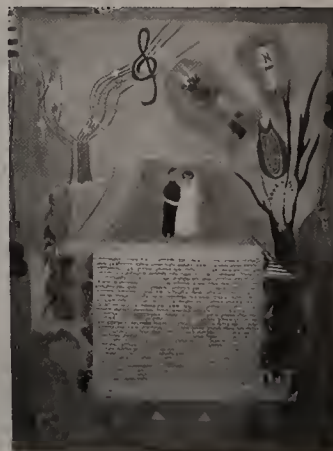
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Impressions from the GA: 'enriching Jewish life now and into the future'

We have a great Jewish community in Ottawa. We have myriad interesting programs and activities, and many people are engaged in community in various areas of interest, with varying degrees of involvement. We don't always agree, but controversy can also strengthen. However, sometimes, one has to leave our community and go elsewhere to fully appreciate what we have. I was among a group of lay leadership and staff who recently attended the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America (GA) in Washington, DC, and I want to share with you some of my impressions.

We were a small group from Ottawa, but we had the best representation of any Canadian Federation. Although there are many who believe the GA's mostly American focus is irrelevant to our Canadian Federations, it is an intensely powerful experience to sit in an assembly hall with 3,000 other Jews from all over North America and Israel, all with the same goals of enriching Jewish life now and into the future, and of maintaining our strong bond with Israel.

The Jewish Federations of North America – formerly United Jewish Communities – has had its own identity issues and is trying to be an effective umbrella organization to better represent its 157 federations and 400 independent network communities across the continent. We heard from many speakers,



Federation Report

Donna Dolansky
Chair

and were expecting to have the opportunity to hear U.S. President Barack Obama. Unfortunately, he had to go to Fort Hood, Texas for the memorial service for the victims of the massacre there. We listened, instead, to Rahm Emmanuel, his chief of staff.

We also heard addresses from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu; Representative Eric Cantor, the only Jewish Republican in the U.S. Congress; Israeli Opposition Leader Tzipi Livni; and many lay leaders. We had special briefings on Iran, on Israel, and participated in many workshops and forums, all with the goal of making us more knowledgeable, committed Jewish leaders. To quote Kathy Manning, incoming chair of the Board of the Jewish Federations of North America, "We're helping to foster connections among Jews around the world to strengthen Israel and to enhance Jewish identity, something that so many of us believe is at risk in today's open marketplace of identities."

If you are interested, there are videos of the three major plenary sessions at jewishfederations.org. Just click on "GA '09" and follow the links to the plenary videos.

I was proud to represent Ottawa's Jewish community at the GA. I am proud of what we have done and are accomplishing. However, as Kathy Manning says, "There are needs we are not meeting and there are people we are not reaching ... We cannot be content to rest on our past achievements."

I am motivated to make our community even greater and I hope you will join me.

Partnership meetings

I was not the only travelling community member in recent weeks. We also sent a delegation to Israel for meetings with our partnerships in the Northern Galilee. I have a stake in this project because I was once Ottawa's representative to the coast-to-coast Canadian partnership with Etz Bah HaGalil (Galilee Panhandle), and I also served as national coast-to-coast chair. I understand these meetings were very successful, and I was happy to hear that the Israeli delegations were composed of volunteers, who added a great deal to the meetings.

An idea was proposed by the Ottawa delegation, which we hope will come to fruition. A team of Ottawa Lions of Judah, the Sea Lions, participated in the dragon boat

rares in Ottawa last June and were successful in raising money for various Ottawa charities. Debbie Weiss, who chaired the Ottawa initiative, brought that idea to Israel in the hope that we can create a dragon boat race on the Sea of Galilee and raise money to help Israeli charitable efforts. Stay tuned for developments in this area.

Members Meeting

We held an interesting Members Meeting on November 4 at which the Federation's committees all presented their mandates and work plans for the coming year. I hope this presentation clarified the structure and goals of Federation for those attending, and, as always, I welcome comments and questions, and your participation!

Young Women's Leadership Council

One initiative that we are particularly excited about is the revitalization of the Young Women's Leadership Council. There's been considerable interest in the program and the first meeting was held on November 24 with about 18 young women in attendance. The Council is under the chairmanship of Adina Libin and Gillian Dolansky, and staffed by Lindsay Rothenberg. Mazal Tov to everyone involved in bringing this idea to fruition.

A very happy and meaningful Chanukah to all, from our house to yours

Will the real Chanukah please stand UP?

There are probably a few of us left who remember the television show, *To Tell the Truth*.

The premise was very simple. A panel of celebrities would be introduced to three individuals all claiming to be the same person who had done something newsworthy. After some questions and answers, the panel would vote on their choice of the 'real' newsmaker.

The signature line of the contest was offered by the host after the panel's vote. "Will the real ... please stand up!" It was not very exciting television in comparison to today's reality shows, but I remember it with a smile.

The 25th day of Kislev looms on the horizon and I sometimes wonder when the real Chanukah will stand up.

The Books of the Maccabees speak of victory over the Greek Syrians without any mention of the miracle of the eight days of oil.

This rarely read book of the apocrypha serves for many Jews as the primary justification for using military might as permitted self-defence. These friends and supporters of Israel see the Maccabees as the classic Jewish role model, always ready to defend our land and our people with an arm prepared to inflict violence in the name of self-defence.

It is usually the story of Judah and Hananiah who serve as role models to those who preach violence as our only means of sav-



From the pulpit

Rabbi Steven Garten
Temple Israel

ing our people and its homeland.

When I hear of the Chanukah story being used as the justification for bombing Gaza or the need 'to teach a lesson' to those who threaten our existence, I'm reminded of author Roger Kaminitz who said, "If one is compassionate, then one has a compassionate Torah. If one is angry, one's Torah is also angry. All the more so if one believes that violence can be the path to redemption."

On the other hand, the events of 165 BCE, as presented in the Talmud and written a mere 600 years after the Maccabean revolt, consists of a mere sentence.

After the Temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE, the sages emphasized a story about a miracle of oil and proposed a new ceremonial way to proclaim continuity and hope: lighting a Chanukah in the window at dusk to proclaim the miracle of light in a time of darkness.

Lighting candles was their form of resistance to real and perceived threats. Perhaps that is why we are charged to read a Haftorah from Zachariah, "Not by Might,

nor by power but only by my spirit."

These are two radically different approaches to Jewish survival: the sword or the candle burning brightly. I wish the real Chanukah would please stand up.

Perhaps this confusion is why so many are willing to ignore either of these powerful messages and make gift-giving the essence of the holiday. I'm not opposed to the giving and receiving of gifts, I just wonder how a new plasma TV or a new

iPhone will ensure our people's survival.

Of course, sometimes I ponder the thought that the real miracle of Chanukah is our continued existence as a covenantal people. It is that which we celebrate and that which is to be taught to our children and grandchildren. Presents and arguments about which story is the real story should probably take a back seat to a loud 'Hallelujah' for being here to celebrate another Chanukah.

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Gabriel controversy overshadows the tremendous success of *Choices*

One of the stories on the front page of this issue of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* is Cynthia Nyman Engel's report on the keynote speech Brigitte Gabriel delivered, November 5, at the third annual *Choices* event presented by the Women's Campaign of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

Drawing on her personal story, as well as contemporary events, particularly 9/11, Gabriel forcefully attacked the radical Islamist movement. The problem, though, was that she couched her attacks in ways that led some in the audience to conclude that she was attacking all Muslims and Arabs. Others didn't think so. Two different women in attendance have told me that, when Gabriel attacked Muslims and Arabs, "everyone knew she didn't mean *all* Muslims and Arabs, she meant *radical* Muslims and Arabs."

Bulletin columnist Mira Sucharov was one of the women in attendance who took exception to the way Gabriel depicted Muslims and Arabs and Mira devotes her *Values, Ethics, Community* column (page 40) to a discussion of Gabriel and to her suggestions about criteria that should be used in selecting speakers.

There was also a group of women at the *Choices* event who were inspired by Gabriel. In a letter to the *Bulletin* (page 19), Susan Weisman points to an online pe-



Editor

Michael Regenstreif

tion that was launched in support of Gabriel.

What's being overshadowed in the controversy that erupted over Gabriel is the *Choices* event itself. In the three years since it was conceived by committee chair Jennifer Kardash, *Choices* has quickly become the Federation Annual Campaign's most successful program for recruiting new, previously unaffiliated donors to the Jewish community of Ottawa. This year alone, 106 new donors became involved in the community via *Choices*.

The success of *Choices* as an event, and particularly as an event that involves so many people previously unaffiliated with the community, needs to be celebrated. Jennifer, the committee members, and the table captains who do so much to recruit women to the event – and, thus, to the community – are to be congratulated for the excellent work that they do.

In a column earlier this year, I pointed

out that the new chair and vice-chair of the Federation were both women, that all three of the community's major award recipients were women, and even that a significant majority of the volunteers honoured on the occasion of the Federation's 75th anniversary were women. Women have become a driving force in the Jewish community of Ottawa. The success of the annual *Choices* event is another indication of that.

As illustrated by the Gabriel controversy – there is a wide diversity of opinion in the community on any number of issues. If you feel strongly about an issue of concern, if you disagree with an opinion expressed by one of our columnists or with a featured speaker at an event we cover, we welcome your letters to the editor. Your opinions are important and we want to hear from you.

Gil Levine

Gilbert Levine, a legendary figure in the Canadian labour movement, passed away, November 16, at age 85, just days after he was diagnosed with leukemia.

In 2007, when I moved to Ottawa to work at the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*, Gil was the first *Bulletin* reader to call and welcome me to the city. Not long after, he came and met me for lunch at the Soloway JCC and I enjoyed the first of several fascinating, stimulating discussions I would

have with him about the labour movement, Canadian, Israeli and Jewish community politics, and our shared passion for folk music. Gil added me to his personal e-mail list and I got a steady stream of articles from various publications that he wanted to share with his friends, and an equally steady stream of Jewish jokes.

As I came to find out over the past couple of years, Gil was a mensch of the highest degree and a leading voice of conscience in the Canadian, Ottawa and Jewish communities. I'd like to express my sincere condolences to Gil's wife, Helen, and their family.

Happy Chanukah

This is the Chanukah edition of the *Bulletin*, the second of the two "community-wide" editions that we publish each year. If you're not a regular subscriber, I hope you're enjoying the issue and will take a moment to subscribe (see page 32). Or, it being Chanukah time, perhaps you'd like to send someone a gift subscription (see page 63).

This is also the final edition of the *Bulletin* for 2009. We'll be back in 2010 with another 19 issues.

On behalf of everyone at the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*, let me wish everyone in the community a happy, joyous Chanukah.

Playing politics with accusations of anti-Semitism

Will the next federal election turn out a nasty dispute over which political party is more anti-Semitic than the other?

Probably not. But, given the controversy that unfolded recently in the House of Commons, it may not be for lack of trying.

Caught up in the dispute was Irwin Cotler, the Liberal MP for Mount Royal riding in Montreal and a former minister of justice.

Full disclosure: I spent most of my formative years living in that riding and I've known Cotler, who is a friend of my uncle's, since I was a young child.

With one of the largest Jewish populations of any riding in Canada, Mount Royal has been represented by a Jewish MP in the House of Commons for more than a quarter-century. Before Cotler, the late Sheila Finestone held the seat for many years.

Not only is it one of the more Jewish-flavoured ridings in the country, it is also one of the safest Liberal seats around. It has been almost 75 years since Mount Royal elected a non-Liberal MP. When I was growing up, our local MP was none other than Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

A mailbox, the joke goes, could win the riding thanks to its red color. A bad election for Mount Royal Liberals is when their candidate wins less than 65 per cent of the



Alan Echenberg

vote.

By that measure, last year's federal election was not a good one for Irwin Cotler. He was re-elected easily, with 55.6 per cent of the vote. But his Conservative rival won 27.3 per cent, an almost 10 per cent improvement from that party's showing in the previous election.

By comparison, when Cotler first ran for Parliament in a 1999 by-election, he won more than 90 per cent of all votes cast.

It was a similar story elsewhere in the country in the handful of Liberal ridings with substantial Jewish populations. In Toronto, the Liberals easily won ridings such as Eglinton-Lawrence and York Centre, but with pluralities instead of their frequent outright majorities.

As well, in the 2008 election, the Conservatives took suburban Thornhill, the riding with the largest percentage of Jewish voters in Ontario, although Thornhill does

have a history as a swing riding, rather than as a safe Liberal seat.

All of this may explain the recent Commons kerfuffle over anti-Semitism. In a minority Parliament, parties look for any edge they can find to win the few seats that may put them over the top next time around.

For Stephen Harper's Conservatives, hungry for a majority after twice falling just short, traditionally Liberal seats with sizable populations of ethnic minorities seem to hold the most promise. They are the kinds of ridings in which the Conservative Party made notable headway last year, and hopes to do even better when another election is called.

That helps to explain why households in Mount Royal and other ridings with large Jewish populations recently received taxpayer-funded Conservative Party flyers that contrasted Conservative and Liberal actions on issues thought to be of interest to Jewish voters: anti-Semitism; fighting terrorism; support for Israel.

"(Conservatives) led the world in refusing participation in Durban II hate-fest against Israel," one of the flyer's bullet points read, referring to the controversial UN Conference on Racism. "(Liberals) willingly participated in overtly anti-Semitic Durban I."

Not so fast, replied Cotler and other Liberal MPs from ridings targeted by the Conservative campaign. In the House of Commons, Cotler demanded an apology, pointing out that he had been an outspoken critic of Durban I, which he attended in 2001:

"Not only did the Canadian delegation and I myself speak unequivocally in condemnation of Durban but ... Israel, at the time, publicly commended Canada for its participation and the nature of its participation in the Durban I conference."

It is quite a stretch to paint an MP like Irwin Cotler – whose bona fides as a human rights activist and a supporter of Jewish causes are impeccable – with even a hint of an anti-Semitic brush.

Conservatives were careful not to criticize Cotler directly, but also offered no apologies for the flyers. Instead, they pointed to controversial statements made in the past by other Liberal MPs, including leader Michael Ignatieff.

Will these hardball tactics work? Tories risk a backlash if Jewish voters feel manipulated or turned off by playing politics with accusations of anti-Semitism. But, the party seems confident that the Jewish vote is ripe for the picking.

Alan Echenberg is *TVOntario's* Parliamentary bureau chief.

Leaving a legacy through life insurance

By Hailey Eisen

When my father, Jeffrey Eisen, began finalizing his plans to move to Toronto earlier this year, he decided he wanted to leave a parting contribution to Ottawa's Jewish community. Having spent most of his life in Pembroke, and the past six years in Ottawa, he felt a particularly strong connection to the community.

"The Ottawa Jewish community always supported our small community in Pembroke, providing us with Hebrew school teachers and offering other invaluable resources," Eisen recalls. "When we moved to Ottawa, we were warmly welcomed by the Jewish community."

So, when the opportunity to donate a sizable life insurance policy to the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation (OJCF) presented itself, Eisen says the decision was a no-brainer. The idea came from Susan St. Amand of Sirius Financial Services when he met with her to conduct an overall assessment of his fi-

nancial situation. Prior to this meeting, Eisen had made some changes in his professional life: retiring from his active managerial role in the family business, Pemco Inc., and pursuing a new career as a life coach.

"As I was going through this process with Susan, it appeared as though I possessed life insurance that I had needed while in business, but no longer required," he says.

Eisen began to re-evaluate his current expenditures to determine whether the policies he was paying into were actually benefiting him.

"I recommend people review their estate and financial plans on a regular basis, especially after significant life changes such as retirement, selling a business, buying a business, having children, or having grandchildren," explains St. Amand.

When examining Eisen's insurance portfolio, she came across one particular policy that had also served as an investment vehicle and, at the time of cancellation, had cash surrender value.

"Susan recommended that, if I felt at all philanthropic, I might consider donating this

policy to a charitable cause," says Eisen.

The result of this type of in-kind donation, which is becoming increasingly common, is that when the donor passes away, the charity receives the death benefit from the policy. And, St. Amand explains, in the meantime the charity possesses a policy worth an established fair-market value that it can borrow against, or take cash out of, if needed.

This case proved to be a win-win scenario. Eisen had the opportunity to give tzedakah while receiving a significant tax receipt, and the

Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation received a gift that will support the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Annual Campaign into the future.

"This donation was one of the largest life insurance policies we've received to date," says Jack Silverstein, executive director of the Federation's Annual Campaign and president of OJCF. "It is an amazing contribution that leaves the donor and the community feeling really good."

While, for many individuals, the thought of giving a large one-time sum may be overwhelming or unfeasible,

there are several types of in-kind donations, including life insurance policies, securities, real estate and personal property, that can serve as desirable alternatives.

For Eisen, the decision required him to re-evaluate his belief you should never get rid of a life insurance policy.

"People who were in business may find themselves retired and over-insured," says Silverstein. "If your family is taken care of, then life insurance policies provide donors with opportunities to create legacies that live on in their name."

YLIA Initiative for 2010 is recruiting

The Young Leadership Israel Advocacy Initiative (YLIA), organized by the Canada-Israel Committee, United Israel Appeal Canada and the Canadian Jewish Political Affairs Committee, is an exciting program that provides a select group of young adults across Canada with the tools, materials and political connections to participate in

the Canadian political arena and advance the pro-Israel agenda.

The program will enable the next generation of the organized Jewish community leadership to be exposed to and interact with Canadian parliamentarians and senior government officials, while cementing their commitment to community.

YLIA is open to any Jewish young adult between the ages of 25 and 45 who is a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant.

Participants must have an interest in becoming involved in the Canadian political arena.

The YLIA program features an hour-long monthly conference call or session from February to August built around an advocacy curriculum developed by the Canada-Israel Committee; information and training to engage participants in the political parties as active members and the tools to navigate the party systems; a three-day retreat in Ottawa in February focusing on advocacy skill-building, Israel education, election training, and meetings with government officials and parliamentarians; and in Au-

gust/September – traditionally around Labour Day – a week-long mission to Israel with a group of Canadian parliamentarians. The mission includes briefings with senior Israeli government officials, members of the Knesset and leading academics and journalists; strategic tours of the northern border and Golan Heights; Shabbat in Jerusalem, and much more.

Participation in this initia-

tive requires the commitment and willingness to participate in monthly conference calls or sessions, the Ottawa retreat, and an August/September mission to Israel.

The deadline for applications is Friday, December 11. For further information, contact Mindy Eklove, director, National Young Leadership, YLIA Federations Canada, at 416-636-7655, ext. 225, or meklove@uiafed.org.

University of Ottawa

The Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program

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Minor in Jewish Canadian Studies.

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New book of essays published by students in the program: *Creating Remembrance: Canadian Responses to the Holocaust*, available for purchase. For details, contact Prof. Rebecca Margolis, 613-562-5800 ext. 2955 | email: rmargoli@uOttawa.ca

For more information on the Vered Program and its activities:
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Thursday, December 10	Movie Night at Hillel Lodge
Friday, December 11	Chanukah Shabbat Dinner
Saturday, December 12	Chanukah Shabbat Services
Wednesday, December 16	Magical Chanukah Kibbitz Club Lunch at Agudath Israel in partnership with Jewish Family Services

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Brian Pearl
president

A very busy season for Ottawa JNF: Canvassing for the Negev Dinner honouring Sara Vered and preparing for the 2010 Tu B'Shevat Telethon

JNF Volunteers are calling in November and December to invite you to join us in honouring Sara Vered at this year's Negev Dinner. I am happy to report that we are selling corporate tables, ads and tributes for Sara in our souvenir book, and are accepting requests for seats at the Negev Dinner. Thank you all once again for your continuing support, and we hope that you will join us in honouring this extraordinary woman.

Our keynote speaker at the Negev Dinner honouring Sara Vered will be the Honourable Stockwell Day, P.C., M.P., Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Asia-Pacific Gateway. Mr. Day is a great Canadian politician and a great friend of Israel and the Jewish community.

Please be generous when a canvasser calls and asks for your support for Sara's special projects in Israel: The primary project chosen by Sara Vered, The Sara and Zeev Vered Pioneer Grounds of Ben-Gurion's Cabin, brings new life and interest to the site of Ben-Gurion's famed cabin, located off the main Beer Sheva-Mizpe Ramon highway in Kibbutz Sde Boqer in the Negev Desert. A small portion of the funds will also be directed to the Ran Kochva Lookout in the Galilee that was built through the major initiative of Sara and Zeev Vered, and with the support of the Koranyi, Barwin and Bentob families.

We look forward to hearing from you and hope that you will join us at the gala evening on Monday, March 22, 2010, 6:00 pm, at the Fairmont Château Laurier as we pay tribute to an outstanding community leader, Sara Vered, and for what will surely be a memorable evening with an excellent guest speaker.

Also, as the new year looms, JNF swings into preparations for our annual Tu B'Shevat Telethon. The telethon will take place on Sunday January 31, 2010, and we are looking forward to another great response from the Ottawa Jewish community. For several years now, our community has been a leader in JNF Canada terms of the money raised in relation to our size, and I am certain that Ottawa will come through again in 2010 with shining colours. This year, the telethon is once again under the capable leadership Jane and Martin Gordon. I want to thank them for getting the plans for the Tu B'Shevat Telethon underway so promptly and so well.

Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah Inscriptions

Calch Samuel Sher by his proud parents, Graham and Erica Sher, and by Steven, Jennifer and Isaac Glassman; Shauna Isabella Taller by her proud parents, Gloria and Martin Taller; Dahlia Alexandra Sculnick-Bercovitch by her proud parents, Eileen Sculnick and Bruce Bercovitch; Isaac David Moore by his proud parents, Wayne Moore and Kayla Estrin; Sarab Yisraella Alice and Blimi Chaya Alice by their proud grandparents, Myra and Gordon Alice; Nathan Miles Cantor by his proud parents, Kevin and Jessica Cantor.

On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (613.798.2411).



Exciting, new projects supported by Ottawa's partnership with the Galilee panhandle

By Jeff Bradshaw
Senior Director of Planning
Jewish Federation
of Ottawa

The Jewish community of Ottawa has been investing in the Galilee panhandle for 12 years. Our projects have been varied and important. From a special needs high school program, to a new science lab at the Tel Hai College, we have been investing in the next generation of Israeli leaders, scientists and athletes in significant ways.

Recently, we have broadened our scope and moved from funding educational initiatives to funding and supporting human development, with a focus on youth, in Israel's northern periphery. In early November, Federation representatives travelled to Israel for four days of meetings and project visits.

Kav Hazinuk (Starting Line) is a new, exciting and powerful project, which the Ottawa Jewish community is now supporting in partnership with the Jewish communities of Vancouver, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Atlantic Canada and Hamilton – our Canadian Coast-to-Coast family – alongside various other Israeli and North American foundations and organizations.

Traditional leadership programs for youth in the region have participants for one or two years. Kav Hazinuk believes that leadership takes a long time: 10 years. They work with local schools, youth groups and community agencies to identify the leadership potential in a group of young people who have a spark that needs to be kindled. They then work with these youth through high school, army service and post-secondary education.

From age 16 to 26, these youth are guided in their own pursuits of community betterment through existing organizations, or, like Natalie Metayev, who started a very successful national campaign to get people to sign their organ donation cards at the age of 16, by beginning their



(Left to right) Mitchell Bellman, Lisa Rosenkrantz, Michael Walsh and Jeff Bradshaw observe students in the science labs at Tel Hai College that were refurbished with the help of Canada's Israel Emergency Campaign.

own initiatives and bringing their passion and energy to meaningful causes.

Our other new initiative is a partnership with the Joint Distribution Committee to create a regional centre for young adults housed at Tel Hai College. This program

will provide vocational and skills training and other services aimed at assisting the youth of the North to become self-reliant adults. Many of the clients this program will serve are new immigrants or at-risk youth. Using the college as the facility will allow

them to see that education can be fun and challenging, and not something that only exists in the centre of the country.

These new programs are just two of the ways we are building a stronger Israel by building a stronger North.



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Torah High increases enrolment to 90 students

By Gaby Searowsky
NCSY
Director of Programming
Torah High, only in our fourth year of operation, has grown significantly again this year increasing enrolment to 90 Jewish students from 12 different public high schools in Ottawa.

The program, a project of NCSY Ottawa, aims to provide quality Jewish education at a low cost to public high school students, regardless of affiliation or level of previous Jewish education. Students only pay a one-time tax-deductible \$299 registration fee.

"With 95 per cent of Ottawa Jewish teens in public high schools, our community needs a Jewish educational program that connects these Jewish teens to their Jewish identity, the Jewish community, and Israel," says Bram Bregman, executive director of NCSY Ottawa.

"Making the course material relevant and offering high school credits provides a big incentive for unaffiliated

Jewish teens to attend Jewish classes every week, many of whom would not otherwise affiliate with the Jewish community."

This year, Torah High is running nine classes per week and offering four different credit courses: three for university preparation and a Mitzvah Action Course for volunteer hours. Students attend a weekly two-hour class at the NCSY Lounge in Craig Henry Plaza and must obtain an additional 30 hours of educational programming.

The additional programming includes Shabbat dinners, guest speakers, special learning sessions or weekend conventions.

NCSY ran a Shabbat Dinner on November 6 at Sir Robert Borden High School with 45 Jewish teenagers in attendance.

From November 26 to 30, a full bus of 47 Jewish teenagers from Ottawa attended an NCSY Weekend Convention in New York City, where they toured and attended educational pro-

grams over Shabbat. Combining the learning with social activities makes weekend conventions attractive and fun for students.

"These are kids in public schools who still want some connection with Jewish education, if it is done in a warm, welcoming and non-threatening way," said Rabbi Yehuda Simes, Torah High director of education. "In our year-

end survey last year, 100 per cent of the students said Torah High was a positive Jewish experience for them."

Torah High's success is due to its convenience, having great teachers, offering Ministry of Education approved credits, providing food at every class, providing a relaxed learning environment and making it financially accessible to all. This in-

novative and creative approach has created a Jewish educational program that teens want to attend.

"Success has been the result of innovative and knowledgeable educators and leaders who allow for healthy discussion and interaction in a relaxed milieu," said Kathi Kovacs, chair of NCSY Ottawa.

"When we started, we felt

that high school kids in the Jewish community deserved to be engaged in Jewish learning."

Torah High Ottawa is funded through private donations and the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

For more information or to donate, contact Bram Bregman at 613-262-6279 or bram@ncsy.ca or visit Ottawa.torahhigh.ca.

Mailbag

bulletin@ottawajewishbulletin.com

Language

One of the very crudest Yiddish words appeared in a headline of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* (November 2, page 13). Crudity in any language should not appear in the *Bulletin*. At the very least, let's remove such language from the headlines.

Jeffrey B. Sidney

Brigitte Gabriel

It has come to my attention that a column speaking negatively about Brigitte Gabriel is being published in the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*. Those reading anything negative about Gabriel should know there is a group of women who really enjoyed the *Choices* evening.

Federation has come under a lot of pressure for bringing Gabriel to speak. A few of us felt it was important to stand

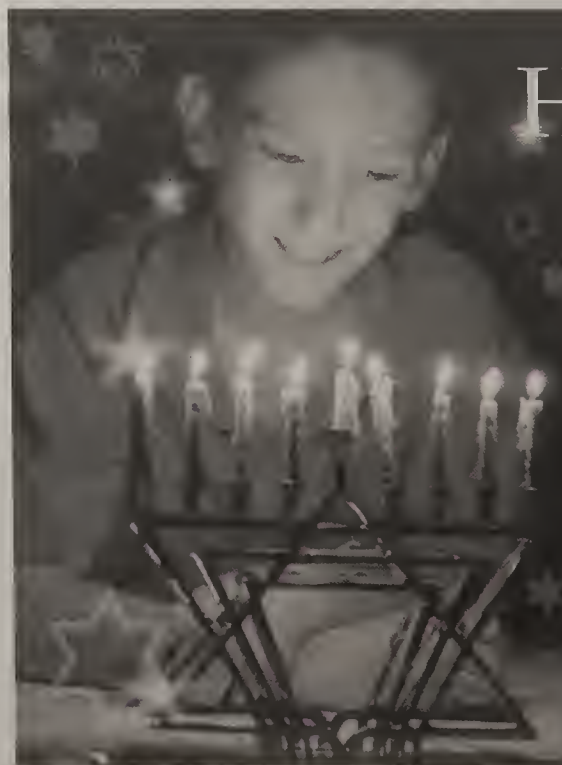
in support of Israel and those who speak out against Islamic terrorism.

While Gabriel may not be a parve speaker, she has a very compelling personal story that reminds us how important it is to speak up on behalf of Israel, the Jewish people, freedom and democracy.

While there is a lot of controversy surrounding the evening, a lot of us who attended left feeling inspired and charged up. Although everyone may not have left feeling the same way, it should not be seen as a negative, if healthy debate and discussion was a result.

To that effect, a group of women got together and wrote an online petition to the board of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa that can be read and signed at petitiononline.com/Choices.

Susan Weisman




Happy Chanukah!

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and happiness always.

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Settlements jeopardize Israel's survival, Peace Now leader says

By Gabriella Goliger

for Canadian Friends of Peace Now

"I love my country," said Hagit Ofra when asked why she spends so much time poking her nose into places she's not wanted.

As director of Peace Now's flagship program, Settlement Watch, Ofra regularly travels the West Bank, documenting illegal construction and outposts and reporting on these activities to the Israeli public. Her work often brings her into nasty confrontations with fellow Jews who regard her as an enemy. But she persists because she believes ending the settlement project is critical to Israel's survival as a democratic Jewish state.

Ofra visited Ottawa October 30, after participating in the inaugural J Street conference – a gathering of dovish Jews – in Washington, D.C. She met with students at Hillel House prior to Shabbat dinner.

Granddaughter of the Israeli philosopher and religious scholar Yeshayahu Leibowitz, the soft-spoken, unassuming woman of 34 has no trouble facing down hostile settlers and countering chutzpah with chutzpah as she photographs the latest building sites.

For its own interests, Israel must seek a two-state solution, she argues, otherwise it will be a land in which Arabs – with or without civil rights – will form the majority.

"If I wanted to live as part of a Jewish minority, I may as well come to Canada," Ofra said, with a bitter smile.

Public opinion polls show that most Israelis agree with her in principle. But, recently, there has been little outcry against settlement growth, which has continued apace despite government assurances to the contrary. Though no new building permits are being issued, settlers exploit existing permits and bureaucratic grey areas to build new homes. There were about 800 housing starts in the West Bank in the three months prior to her Ottawa visit, Ofra said.

Israelis tolerate this activity because they have become jaded about the peace process or because they consider settlements as "bargaining chips," said Ofra.

Such thinking, Ofra added, undermines Palestinian moderates while strengthening Hamas. Every brick added to Jewish settlements in the occupied territories is a message to Palestinians that Israel is not serious about peace, she asserts.

"You can't say you believe in a two-state solution while continuing to build."

She is also concerned about the violation of Arab neighbourhoods in and around Jerusalem by "Jewish zealots." Ofra said an organization called Elad finds ways to acquire houses for Jews in the Muslim



Hagit Ofra believes Israel must halt settlement construction and seek a two-state solution with the Palestinians.

quarter of the Old City and other Arab communities. Recently, Elad has funded extensive archaeological digs in the ancient City of David, located within the Arab village of Silwan. The digs include lengthy underground tunnels that could undermine some of the Arab houses above. Village life is also disrupted by the large numbers of visitors brought to the site. The Israeli government has allowed Elad, a private organization, to administer the archaeological park. All this, she explained, feeds into a paranoia exploited by Hamas that Israel is digging under the Al Asqa Mosque nearby.

Despite an apparent softening of the American position on settlements, Ofra believes U.S. President Barack Obama will force Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to enforce a freeze and the frantic construction activity in the West Bank shows the settlers believe it too. They are rushing to establish more "facts on the ground" before it's too late, said Ofra.

Ofra takes heart too from what she sees as a rekindling of the debate about settlements within Israel after eight years of apathy. Paradoxically, she said, the election of a right-wing government in Israel has allowed the emergence of a more visible and effective opposition. Journalists who ignored Peace Now a year ago are now "running after us."

While these might appear to be thin straws to grasp at considering the current stalemate and the many setbacks the peace process has encountered since the collapse of Oslo, Ofra refuses to despair.

"I want to live in Israel. I love Israel. If I feel there is no chance to change things or to move forward, I will not be able to stay there. So I have to find a way."

Jewish National Fund of Ottawa
2009 Negev Dinner honouring

Sara Vered



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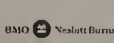
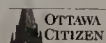
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Baking bread on a Mom's Night Out

By Cynthia Nyman Engel
for Friendship Circle

A group of moms got together recently to make – and break – bread together at the home of Cindy Feingold, author of *Made with Love*, the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin's* popular recipe column.

The 11 women, all parents of special needs children, were sharing in a special Mom's Night Out, sponsored by Friendship Circle under the auspices of the Jewish Youth Library (JYL).

The ladies watched as Feingold taught the fine points of making and bak-

ing challah, corn bread and cinnamon buns from scratch. Then they sampled the results as JYL's Devora Caytak explained the mitzvah of baking bread.

"It was a great evening," said Friendship Circle Coordinator Sigal Baray. "We had lots of fun. All of us are mothers of special needs children so these evenings give us the opportunity to get out and meet each other, exchange information and ideas, and share the challenges we all face."

"Women with special needs children don't get out a lot," she added. "An evening out together is a

treat for us. We're really an important support group for each other."

Barbara Grinfeld has been involved with Friendship Circle for three years and finds the evenings tremendously helpful. Her 13-year-old son Danny is cognitively delayed and suffers from a severe, life-threatening epileptic syndrome.

"I can't begin to tell you what a relief it is for me to spend an evening with other women who just understand," Grinfeld said. "It's amazing. It's a time you can reserve for yourself to talk about how you feel without having to explain all the circumstances because all of us are dealing with similarly difficult situations."

"Friendship Circle is such a wonderful program, such a wonderful awareness raiser," she added. "You get out there and you realize there is help."

Feingold agreed. "I was delighted to host the pro-



Bulletin columnist Cindy Feingold (third from left) taught bread-baking to a Friendship Circle group enjoying a Mom's Night Out.

gram because it gave me a chance to give back to Friendship Circle," said the columnist. "My son Jamie has been involved with its teen volunteer program for four years now."

"Kids with special needs have a harder time making friends and the teen volunteer program is just a nice way of helping them to form friendships one-on-one," she explained. "Jamie has had two different boys from the program and he enjoyed both of them. It's nice for him to have male friends because at school it's usually the girls who are more nurturing."

Danny Grinfeld also has enjoyed the companionship of a teen volunteer who visited him weekly to play games, listen to music or just bond. And, Danny's sister, Alexandra, recently joined the program as a volunteer.

"I never tried to push her," said her proud mom. "It was a decision she made on her own."

The program comprises some 30 teenage volunteers from various high schools. Everyone benefits: the special needs child, the parents who get a welcome break, and the volunteers who see what they are capable of

accomplishing.

In addition to the monthly Mom's Night Out, Friendship Circle also holds family programs.

"We had family apple picking before Rosb Hashanah," said Baray. "We have family Shabbat dinners and we have a Chanukah program coming up on December 14 at the Soloway JCC featuring marionettes from Montreal. "We are busy," she said smiling. "We are very busy."

For more information on Friendship Circle, call 613-729-1619 or 613-282-0565 or visit jylofottawa.org.

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JET campaign goal: 18,000 hours of collective Jewish learning by May 5

By Danya Vered
for JET

The commemoration of JET's Chai Anniversary began with a bang, November 15, with Rabbi Ken Spiro's *WorldPerfect* evening, and will end in celebration, May 5, at the Jewish Unity Live event at the National Gallery.

The path between these two events will enliven and motivate the community to engage in Jewish education through JET's *18,000 Hours of Jewish Learning* campaign.

An eager audience filled the Ben Franklin Centre to capacity as Rabbi Spiro extolled the virtues of Judaism's worldly contributions.

Focusing on six ideal values of a perfect world, he demystified the origins of the basic values often associated with the ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome by localizing the centrality of those values in Jewish learning and Torah. Quoting historian Paul Johnson, Rabbi Spiro asserted that the world without Jews would have been a radically different place.

Rabbi Spiro maintained that Jews have had a greater impact on the consciousness of the world than even the greatest of civilizations, particularly with the introduction of a singular God, and its correlative singular absolute standard of morality. He said that being 'the chosen people' meant carrying a singular responsibility to perfect the world by emulating the ways of God.

Rabbi Spiro's reminder of our unique responsibility to be the best we can be spoke directly to JET's community-focused initiative. The Torah is our guidebook for bringing out the greatest potential of the community, and of ourselves. To celebrate its central goal as an organization that promotes Jewish educa-



Rabbi Ken Spiro (left) and Rabbi Zischa Shaps launched JET's Chai Anniversary celebration, November 15.

tion and inspiration, to adults and families, JET's *18,000 Hours of Jewish Learning* campaign is a spiritual call to the Ottawa Jewish community to unite and accumulate an awe-inspiring amount of collective Jewish learning.

Everyone can make his or her individual learning contributions in ways that are important to him or her, while also being part of a greater community endeavour. People can learn on their own, or with a learning partner, or take a JET class – such as *18 Tools for Highly Effective Jewish Living* – among other possibilities. Participants then document their hours via e-mail, time sheets, or simply by logging their information on the JET website.

The structure of the campaign is simple. JET has invited the community to accumulate a united 18,000 hours of Jewish learning and then celebrate reaching

the momentous goal at the Jewish Unity Live festivities on May 5 featuring special guest Lori Palatnik, executive director of the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project and a visionary in creating enriching Jewish experiences for adults.

In a video shown at the *WorldPerfect* program, Palatnik joined JET in galvanizing everyone from children to seniors to amass the 18,000 hours of collective Jewish learning. Palatnik emphasized that Jews come from all over the world, speak innumerable languages, eat different foods and share different cultures; and the one thing Jews throughout the world have in common is the Torah.

And the more we know about the Torah, and the Jewish values that originate in it, the more we will be able to bring those values to repair and, ultimately, perfect our world.

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Harper visits Chabad centre in Mumbai

During a visit to Mumbai, India, November 16, Prime Minister Stephen Harper visited the Chabad centre attacked by terrorists who murdered six Jews there on November 26, 2008. Harper was guided on the visit by Rabbi Chaim Mendelsohn of Chabad of Centrepoinette and Rabbi Yousef Kantor.

(PMO Photo: Jason Ransom)

Jewish War Veterans participate in National Remembrance Day ceremony



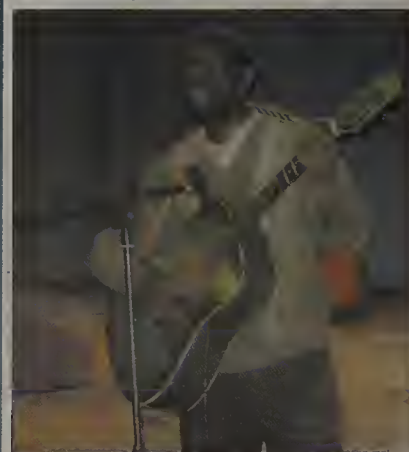
Phil Pinkus, commander of the Ottawa Post of Jewish War Veterans of Canada, at the Remembrance Day ceremony at the National War Memorial.



Sam Ages was among the veterans who marched past the National War Memorial following the ceremony.

(Photos: Eily Botlegraaf)

Abayudaya leader visits Ottawa



JJ Keki, a leader of the small Abayudaya Jewish community toured North America last month and spoke about his community at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre on November 11. An accomplished guitarist and singer with two CDs to his credit, Keki also performed a song for an enthusiastic audience of about 200.

(Photo: Michael Regenstreif)

Tory flyer targets Liberal ridings with large Jewish populations

TORONTO (JTA) – Canadian leaders have asked the prime minister to disavow a taxpayer-funded Conservative Party flyer they say portrays the opposition Liberal Party as anti-Semitic.

In a letter signed by 120 prominent Jewish and non-Jewish Canadians, Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper is asked to withdraw the mailing, which was sent to electoral districts with large Jewish populations.

The one-page flyers laud the Tories for having a better record on Israel and accuse the Liberals of having “willingly” attended the “overtly anti-Semitic” Durban I anti-racism conference in 2001, and of opposing the defunding of Hamas and Hezbollah.

“We find it highly disturbing that any party or parliamentarian would attempt to use Israel as a wedge to divide the Jewish community and, indeed, Canadians, for partisan gain,” states the letter,

which is signed by businesspeople, academics, politicians, lawyers and well-known Jewish community figures.

It adds that the Liberal Party “has a history of support for Israel, working co-operatively and effectively with the Canadian Jewish community and of speaking and acting against terrorism.”

The letter notes that when they were in power, the Liberals condemned the anti-Semitism at Durban I and that the Canadian delegation remained at the parley at the specific request of Israel.

It also was a Liberal government that designated Hezbollah and Hamas as terrorist organizations in 2002, the letter adds.

The Conservative Party mailing touched off a fierce debate not only on support for Israel, but also on the politics of ethnicity.

Editor’s note: See page 7 for Bulletin columnist Alan Echenberg’s commentary on this issue.



OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



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The Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge, home to 100 residents with an average age of 87 years, provides care and services to the frail and vulnerable Ottawa elderly with a strong focus on maintaining a traditional Jewish setting including kosher meals and holiday celebrations – creating a home-like environment for residents.

The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation (OJCF) receives gifts of capital (i.e. donations) from donors in many different ways – cash, proceeds from an insurance policy, bequest from a donor's Will or Estate, transfer of stocks, gifts of appreciated securities, etc. These gifts are applied to an endowment fund which increases the fund's capital that generates income. It is the available income (not the capital) that is distributed to the beneficiary agencies.

One of the differences between the OJCF and an organization like the Jewish Federation of Ottawa is that the Federation distributes all of the money raised in their campaign through an allocation process conducted by an Allocations Committee. With the OJCF, it is the fund holder that advises the OJCF which beneficiary agency to receive the income. Hillel Lodge has received \$299,519 from the OJCF since 2004.

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Ottawa students at Brooklyn Shabbaton

Members of the Chabad Student Network of Ottawa participated in the Chabad on Campus International Student Shabbaton, November 6-7, in Brooklyn, N.Y. Pictured (left to right) are Yaron Givati, Lee Silverstone, Jared Toll, Rabbi Chaim Boyarsky, Corey Sauvé, Adam Berklin, Asher Farber, David Walters, Daniel Levin and Fabien Malouin.

Jerusalem's mayor visits Ottawa



On a visit to Ottawa, November 9, Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat (left) met with Transport Minister John Baird, MP for Ottawa West-Nepean, for discussions on Israel's security, the economic condition of Jerusalem, the mayor's efforts to increase tourism, and bilateral co-operation.

"We are marking 60 years of diplomatic relations between our two countries and I believe we're at a real high-water mark," said Baird. "Strong personal relationships like the one Mayor Barkat and I have begun to establish can only help maintain these relations."



Councillor visits preschool and library

Kitchissippi Ward Councillor Christine Leadman, seen here with a student at the Westboro Jewish Montessori Preschool, paid a visit to the preschool and the Jewish Youth Library, November 3. Leadman toured the building with Director Devora Caytak, observed the busy activities of the preschoolers and learned about the library's operations, collections and resources.

A non-profit, charitable organization, the Jewish Youth Library has been supporting community literacy since 1983. It encompasses several community programs including the Westboro Jewish Montessori Preschool, a licensed childcare facility for children from two-and-a-half to five, Camp Gan Israel, the Friendship Circle and a lending library. For information, visit jylofottawa.org.

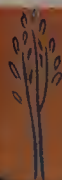
— Jennie Carleton for Jewish Youth Library



Temple Israel students prepare for Chanukah

In eager anticipation of Chanukah celebrations, students at Temple Israel Religious School have been busy preparing for the Festival of Lights. Students from the Junior and Senior Kindergarten Class are pictured learning how to light the Menorah with special instruction from teacher Karli Speevak-Sladowski. Call 613-224-3133 for information on Temple Israel Religious School.

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The Ottawa Torah Institute (OTI), celebrating its 26th anniversary, provides top-quality Jewish education to youths in Grades 9 through 12 in Judaic courses such as Talmud, Chumash, Navi, Halacha and Jewish history coupled with the Ministry of Education secular courses. While religious Jewish high schools may not be in abundance in Ottawa, what we seem to lack in quantity, we make up for in quality.

Each year, the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation (OJCF) allocates money through donor advised funds to beneficiary agencies. One of the differences between the OJCF and an organization like the Jewish Federation of Ottawa is that the Federation raises money through an annual campaign and distributes all of the money raised. The OJCF increases its capital through donations made by donors, which are gifts held in perpetuity. From the capital the available income is distributed to the beneficiary agencies. A donation made to the OJCF is a gift that keeps on giving from one generation to the next.

In addition to immediate funding provided by organizations such as the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, our community agencies can also benefit from stable and consistent financial support. The OJCF provides such a vehicle to its donors through endowed funding. OTI has received \$12,745 from the OJCF since 2004.

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Chanukah feature

At Chanukah, lighting up the tzedakah stairway

By Edmon J. Rodman

(JTA) - What lights the Festival of Lights? What really ignites the eight days, turning them into a hot winter glow?

Is it the oil, the candles, the songs, the latkes, the gifts?

What would you give for an answer?

It's dark and I am walking to Canter's, a famous Los Angeles delicatessen, to buy a half-dozen bagels. I see by the blue and white cookies in their bakery window that it's Chanukah.

Near the entrance, seated on a crate, is a guy who appears to be homeless. Is this his home?

As I pass he holds out a paper cup and shakes it. Coins jingle.

"Any spare change?" he asks.

It's an exchange that happens daily in big cities and small, at the gas station, outside the supermarket, in the mall parking lot, outside the restaurant. No matter where or how high up you live, it happens. It's happened to me in Beverly Hills.

The question is always same: "Do you have any change?" Yet our responses vary.

At Chanukah time or anytime - on the street, at your door, in the mail or online - there are many ways you can respond to requests for tzedakah.

Maimonides, the influential 12th century Jewish philosopher, wrote that there are "eight degrees of tzedakah, each higher than the next." That is, eight distinct, clarifying ways you can respond to human need. The degrees are like steps progressively rising; kind of an early stairway to heaven.

Proverbs tell us that a "mitzvah is a lamp." On Chanukah, we can light up the nights with giving. Consider each step of the tzedakah stairway a candle that is lit each night; each light is an act of giving tzedakah, of doing justice in the world.

The lowest level is giving like a Grinch, too little and with a cheapskate attitude, as when a panhandler is in your face and you feel put out.

"Do I look like a sucker?" you wonder. "Isn't there an agency for this?" you think. So you flip him a dime.

The countering Jewish idea in play here is from *Devarim*, *Deuteronomy*: "Give to him readily," it says, "and have no regrets."

The second step is the sunny side of the first - still giving too



Eight nights of giving, but to whom, how and how much? Maimonides shows the way.

(Photo: Edmon Rodman)

little, but with a smile. Like when a condolence card comes around at work and you pull a five out of your wallet when it's full of twenties. *Devarim* also tells us when considering the needy, "Do not harden your heart and shut your hand."

How much is too little? Hey, this isn't a seasonal piece on tipping, it's on doing justice. Do you need an accountant to paint you a picture?

The third step is giving as much as is needed, but waiting until someone asks.

A tough standard, as most of us don't give until we are approached. The idea here is to cut down on the humiliation for the asker.

Today, when institutions do much of the asking, the concept updates to what if an organization you're going to support has to ask X number of times in letters or e-mails before you respond? Each request takes time and resources, ultimately diminishing your contribution.

The fourth step flips the third: Giving as much as is needed before being asked. Think about it. This puts the giver on the lookout for tzedakah opportunities.

People put their entire energies into looking for investments, why not tzedakah? Isn't breaking the poverty cycle the best investment?

The fifth step includes the previous elements and adds one more. Giving tzedakah when you don't know the recipient but the recipient knows you. It's like having your tzedakah labeled, "This gift brought to you by ..."

This uneven equation allows for corporate boasting about its contributions: Remember those

ads that ran after Katrina? Still, it's tzedakah.

Sixth step: The recipient is known to the giver, the giver is unknown to the recipient.

Talk about randomness. Imagine leaving a box of groceries at some unknown yet needy person's doorstep. Food banks like Sova in Los Angeles or the Kosher

Food Bank in Ottawa, where confidentiality is strictly enforced, illustrate this concept. As a giver, you know the items are going to someone in need, but they never know you.

Step seven: Anonymous giving and receiving. Anonymity is a tough sell today; we are trained from birth to put our names on everything. Historically, in the Temple in Jerusalem, there was a darkened room, *lishkat chasha'im*, literally, a "chamber of secrets," where the giver could leave money and the poor would receive it without shame.

A tzedakah box, or *pushke*, is a related idea. Pick up a box from your favorite Jewish charity, or make one yourself, and join the righteous ranks of the famous unknown.

The highest level, "exceeded by none," Maimonides tells us, is self-sufficiency as a result of outright gifts, loans, partnerships or "finding employment." At a time when every dollar for the poor is debated, Maimonides reminds us to "strengthen" the poor.

In many cities, Jewish free loan societies, Jewish vocational service agencies and international agencies such as ORT help move people toward self-sufficiency. Handicraft workshops for the needy elderly and disabled such as Yad Lakish in Jerusalem, beautifully keep this concept alive.

Israel is attractive for venture capital, survey says

(JTA) - Israel is the most attractive country in the Middle East for venture capital and private equity investment, according to a new survey.

Israel comfortably beat regional competitors United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia to rank 22nd overall in *The Global Venture Capital*

and Private Equity Country Attractiveness Index, which was published November 23 by global accountants Ernst & Young.

The index measures a country's attractiveness to outside investors based on its social, cultural and economic environment, taxation, governance and business

infrastructure.

Israel showed a major improvement in taxation since the first survey four years ago and also scored high marks for fostering entrepreneurial opportunities. But the country slipped in the human and social categories as a result of an unstable security situation.

Canada and Israel to negotiate MRA

OTTAWA - Minister of Industry Tony Clement announced an agreement with Israel, November 18, to begin negotiations on a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) to facilitate the importing and exporting of telecommunications equipment. The announcement followed discussions between Clement and the Israeli Minister of Industry, Trade and Labour Binyamin Ben-Eliezer.

"An MRA will broaden trade opportunities for Canada's telecommunications industry and

provide access to Israel's latest communications technology for Canadian industry and consumers," said Clement.

"I look forward to having Canadian and Israeli officials meet to begin negotiating the MRA for telecommunications equipment."

MRAs facilitate trade by streamlining the conformity assessment procedures for a wide range of telecommunications equipment. An MRA would allow Canada and Israel to accept each

other's test results and, eventually, certificates of compliance.

A reduced regulatory burden and increased opportunities for Canadian business are among the benefits of existing MRAs with the European Community, the European Free Trade Area countries, Switzerland, members of the Organization of American States and members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum.

Industry Canada officials will travel to Israel early in 2010 to begin negotiating the MRA.



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Tamir offers quality of life in a Jewish environment for people with developmental disabilities. Today, Tamir provides quality services to 100 individuals through 11 programs offered by over 100 staff. Tamir fosters long lasting relationships that make a difference in Jewish continuity and outreach.

The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation is a donor centered organization that provides a vehicle for its fund holders and members of the Jewish community to contribute to the long term financial stability and support of the needs of the agencies which serve the Ottawa Jewish community.

Through vehicles such as opening an endowment fund, support is provided to the agencies through an allocation process whereas the gift of capital is invested yielding interest annually. A percentage of the investment income is distributed to registered Canadian charities like Tamir. Tamir has received \$168,758 from the OJCF since 2004.

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March of the Living

The view from past participants: "Please go"

By Brody Appotive
and Harrison Freeman

March of the Living was brought to our attention two years ago by Rhoda Levitan, the chaperone for the Ottawa group. Although we were only in Grade 10, we knew that we had to go.

We knew then that Jewish teens went to Poland for a week, learned about the Holocaust where it took place, took part in the march from Auschwitz to Birkenau, and then went to Israel for a week to celebrate Jewish life today. What we didn't know was that our lives would be changed forever.

We both went to Hillel Academy and studied the Holocaust there. We had watched the documentaries, read the testimonies and listened to the survivors. But reading about the Holocaust in a Grade 8 classroom was in sharp contrast to hearing survivors speak in a gas chamber at Auschwitz.

In Poland, we learned about Jewish life before the Second World War. We visited the synagogues, the yeshivas and the Jewish quarters and realized how



Ottawa participants in the 2008 March of the Living at Auschwitz: (standing, left to right) Tal-Or Ben Choreen, Hilary Hendin, Josh Levitan, Harrison Freeman, Rhoda Levitan, Brody Appotive, Mathew Levinson, Hannah Gennis; (kneeling) Keila Paul, Hailey Abramsky and Tamara Bubis.

vibrant Jewish life once was.

On the second day, we went to Auschwitz. Walking under the *Arbeit Macht Frei* (work makes

you free) sign, it hit us that we were actually there. What we learned about at Hillel Academy was real. This place actually existed. We

were standing on the gravesite of millions of our own people. We saw the gas chambers, the barracks, the crematoria, the shooting walls, everything. It was surreal.

After touring Auschwitz, we sat outside Barrack #4. There, we listened as David Shentow, a Holocaust survivor who, with his wife Rose, accompanied us on the trip, gave testimony on the steps of the same barracks he lived in 60 years earlier. David talked about his early life in Belgium, and of his journey of survival through the Holocaust: deportation to a transit camp and then to Auschwitz. From Auschwitz, he was assigned to Warsaw to clean up the ghetto uprising, and then finally to Dachau, where he was liberated on his birthday, April 29, a day, he told us, he was "reborn."

David was an inspiration and quickly became our hero. Not many people would have the courage to return to Auschwitz after experiencing this hell on earth. But David isn't like most people. He wants us to be his witness.

For the March of the Living, 12,000 Jews from around the world joined hand in hand in rows of six to march from Auschwitz to Birkenau.

Leaving under the *Arbeit Macht Frei* sign, an eerie feeling came over us. We could almost feel our ancestors walking down these same roads on the way to their deaths. We marched in silence for three kilometres. It was a moment of deep reflection as well as pride.

After seeing the horrors of Poland, we went to Israel. It was unbelievable, as if we'd fallen asleep in the darkest of places and woken up in paradise.

We went to the Western Wall at 3:00 am and it felt as if we were home. We visited the Dead Sea, kibbutzim, army museums, and saw the beauty and history Israel has to offer. On Yom Hazikaron, we remembered Israeli soldiers who died fighting and then celebrated the creation of the State of Israel on Yom Ha'Atzmaut.

When we returned home, it took a while to fully comprehend what we had experienced. While everyone on the trip had different memories, we all felt the same. As Jews from all over the world, we united in Poland to remember the six million who were murdered by the Nazis, and to build for our future.

As David said to us at Auschwitz, "People like me won't be here forever. You are now my witnesses. It is your duty as Jews to tell others, so that they too will be witnesses."

To anyone thinking about going on the March, we say, "Go!"

Go, because you want to learn about what Jewish life once was, and what it is today.

Go, to experience the Holocaust in a way you can't in a classroom.

Go, because you want to be a witness to what happened. Go, so that you can feel a connection to your Jewish past and to your Jewish future in Israel.

Go, so if someone tells you the Holocaust never happened, you know that it did.

Go, so you can put meaning into the words, "Never again."

The March of the Living will take place April 7 to 22. Information is available at marchoftheliving.org or by calling Benita Siemiatycki of the Jewish Ottawa InfoCentre at 613-798-4644.

March of the Living: the view from a parent

By Michael Polowin

Editor's note: Michael Polowin's son, Jacob, participated in the March of the Living in 2006. His daughter, Laya, is going on the 2010 March.

For Jewish parents of my generation, and I suspect for succeeding generations, it's the elephant in the room. It's the issue we know we should confront, will have to confront, but would be happier not dealing with, especially with young children.

The Holocaust. We all know about it; some more than others. If you are of my generation, some of your friends' parents were survivors, and all of our parents were young when the full horror of it burst upon the world. It was new, and the horror was profound and fresh.

Now, as parents of the next generation, how do we respond to our children when they ask about the Holocaust? How do we answer their questions? How old do the kids have to be?

Like a lot of other difficult issues, it might be easier to push it off on teachers. Let Hillel Academy teach it. That's a lot safer for us. They can figure out how old the kids have to be. I don't want to

answer the tough questions. Maybe the kids don't need to see the full horror of the thing. It's history, after all. It's never going to happen again. Canada's a different country.

How do you tell your children that only 13 years before their father was born, killing factories worked to rid the world of children just like them, and only because of their faith? When do you tell them that? How much do you tell? Never mind – let Hillel deal with it.

Some years ago, my niece and nephew, now 27 and 25, went on the March of the Living. They spent a week in Poland, visiting the camps and learning about the shattered Jewish communities of that country followed by a week in Israel, revelling in Yom Ha'Atzmaut, and learning what we as a people have built since the horrors ended. We always knew we would encourage our kids to go.

Four years ago, the materials about March of the Living came out when Jacob was in Grade 10 at Sir Robert Borden High School. We talked about it. As hard as it was, Melanie and I encouraged Jacob to think about it, and told him that, had the opportunity exist-

ed in the 70s, we would have gone. We swallowed our over-protective instincts, and told him that, as tough a trip as it would be – in Poland, not in Israel – he would be glad that he went.

Like all big decisions, Jacob agonized. And then he was going.

On April 28, 2006, Jacob left with 15 other kids from Ottawa. They left after months of preparation and group bonding. They left under the leadership of Bram Bregman and Rhoda Levitan, and in the company of a survivor, the wonderful David Shentow, and his equally wonderful wife, Rose.

We followed the pictures on the Internet religiously. We worried, and were filled with pride on his reports – of his reactions to the things he was seeing and experiencing.

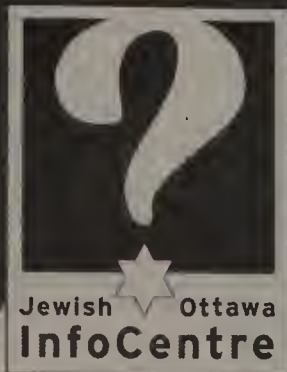
How can you not feel your heart swell hearing the pride in your child's voice, telling you that after seeing the horrors of Majdanek, tears were dried as 140 children, standing at the Memorial filled with ashes, spontaneously broke into "Am Yisroel Chai," and "Hatikvah?" How can you not do the same as he tells you of singing "Hatikvah" at the Kotel after marching through Jerusalem on

Yom Ha'Atzmaut? At how he told us that as awful as some of the camps were, the point was they were there and that 8,000 Jewish kids from around the world on the March of the Living from Auschwitz to Birkenau on Yom HaShoah were evidence of our survival?

Jacob came back a bit older and a bit wiser; even prouder of his heritage than he had been; in love with Israel; and carrying some anger and sadness he will process for some time.

Ask him if he's glad he went and he'll tell you he is, in no uncertain terms. He told us the day he came home that he had decided his younger sister was going in four years, and so she will next spring.

We are still protective parents. But having sent our boy to horrible places, and having sent him to Eretz Yisrael, we also are proud of ourselves for having helped him grow as a person, and as a Jew. And so we will do it again with Laya. For this, we still thank March of the Living and, in particular, Bram, Rhoda, David and Rose, for having looked after all of the kids who went, supported them and guided them through an experience none will ever forget.



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...AND MORE

There's a story in every ache for the Pain Detective

By Benita Baker

Dr. Hillel Finestone has a new nickname: the Pain Detective.

As a physiatrist – a physician who specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation – he treats muscle and ligament pain, weakness or lack of function. Many of his patients have suffered strokes, brain injuries, have been hurt in car accidents, or are experiencing symptoms that appear to have no obvious cause. Pain is the one thing they all have in common.

In order to treat their pain, Finestone believes it essential to understand the

social, environmental and psychological factors at the source of it. A patient may come to see him with chronic back pain, but, like a detective, he will question him or her about life events – marriage, divorce, childhood, work environment – in order to understand the whys, hows and whats of the person's pain.

Finestone calls this "mind-body connection." His success with this approach as well as his passionate belief in it, led to a book. *The Pain Detective: Every Ache Tells a Story*, is a series of vignettes about patients he has successfully

treated. Finestone's goal is to help readers understand the complex relationship between mind, body and pain, to be inspired by the knowledge, and to take charge of their health.

"If people can be helped to identify the physical and social issues that relate to their pain, then healing can occur and new treatment channels will be created," writes Finestone in the book's conclusion.

When Finestone decided there was a book to be written, he employed the same tenacious, fact-finding approach to writing and publishing that he uses with patients. A chance meeting with an entertainment lawyer from Toronto led to friendship, advice, encouragement and confidence.

But what about the nuts and bolts of publishing – finding an agent, publicist, publisher?

The intrepid Finestone began by identifying the publisher of a book he admired. He researched the



Dr. Hillel Finestone, the Pain Detective.
(Photo: Michelle Valberg)

publisher on-line and determined what needed to be done to promote a non-fiction book idea. He developed a proposal and began shopping it around, unsuccessfully, to potential agents.

As luck would have it, Finestone attended a medical conference in Boston, which included a session on how to write a book in the medical field. Twice before, Finestone had attempted to take local courses on non-fiction book writing, but each time the course was cancelled.

The session was presented by Dr. Julie Silver, an assistant professor at Harvard Medical School and an editor of medical books. She

was not impressed when Finestone talked to her about his book idea. She didn't think a series of vignettes was a good format, but agreed to review the book.

Before Finestone knew it, a letter arrived from the Greenwood Publishing Group showing interest in his book. The book was released in September and has sold more than 300 copies to date.

Publication is not the end of the story, however. As academic and educational publishers, Greenwood sells primarily to universities and public libraries. This market is too limited for Finestone. He wants to bring his message of mind-body healing to the public and has rolled out a self-directed, self-financed public relations cam-

paign. His goal is to be on the *Oprah* show.

Finestone is pleased with the response to the book. His colleagues say its message is sound and his patients find it helpful. The media has also been receptive. At one point, sales at Amazon.ca made it their bestseller of books on chronic pain and medical diseases.

The most meaningful response however, is close to home. "My mother is very proud of me," says Finestone.

Whether he makes to *Oprah* remains to be seen. In the meanwhile, the resolute doctor is already thinking about his next book. This one will focus more specifically on recovering from brain injury and stroke. The Pain Detective will become the Brain Detective.

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Netanyahu announces settlement construction freeze

JERUSALEM (JTA) – Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced a 10-month freeze on settlement construction.

"This is a very difficult step for me and my fellow ministers," Netanyahu said in a televised news conference November 25. "This is a far-reaching and painful subject."

Israel's Security Cabinet had approved the freeze almost unanimously shortly before the announcement.

"The government of Israel has taken a very big step towards peace today," Netanyahu said.

Netanyahu also addressed the Palestinians directly.

"This is the time to advance peace together," he said. "New the Israeli public expects that you will take a courageous step, too."

National Infrastructure Minister Uzi Landau of the Yisrael Beiteinu party was the lone dissenter among the Security Cabinet's 17

voting members.

Netanyahu said the freeze will not include Israeli's "sovereign capital" of Jerusalem, including eastern Jerusalem. It also will not apply to construction that has been started or authorized in the West Bank, as well as buildings to allow the 300,000 residents of the West Bank to live "a normal life," including, he said, "synagogues, schools, kindergartens and necessary public buildings."

Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Salam Fayyad and chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat both told reporters before the announcement that a settlement freeze was unacceptable without a halt to construction in eastern Jerusalem.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said following the announcement that the construction freeze would help advance the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

"We believe that through



In a speech, November 9, to the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America in Washington, D.C., Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called for the immediate resumption of peace talks with the Palestinians.

(Photo: Robert Cumins / Jewish Federations of North America)

good-faith negotiations, the parties can mutually agree on an outcome which ends the conflict and reconciles the Palestinian goal of an independent and viable state based on the 1967 lines,

with agreed swaps, and the Israeli goal of a Jewish state with secure and recognized borders," Clinton said in a statement.

At a news conference at the State Department, the

administration's Middle East envoy, George Mitchell, said that "while they fall short of a full freeze, we believe the steps announced by the prime minister are significant and

could have substantial impact on the ground. For the first time ever, an Israeli government will stop housing approvals and all new construction of housing units and related infrastructure in West Bank settlements. That's a positive development."

"Nothing like this occurred during the Bush administration," he added later.

Netanyahu told Security Cabinet members at the start of the November 25 meeting that "In the international circumstances that have been created, this step will promote Israel's broad national interests."

"This is neither simple nor easy, but it has many more advantages than disadvantages. It allows us to place a simple fact before the world: The government of Israel wants to enter into negotiations with the Palestinians, is taking practical steps in order to do so and is very serious in its intentions to promote peace."

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There's Something In It For You

From the Archives



Chanukah 1946 at Machzikei Hadas

This rare image is of a 1946 Chanukah Banquet at Machzikei Hadas Synagogue on Murray Street. Rabbi Emmanuel L. Lifshutz is standing with Rabbi Boruch Kravetz seated beside him.

The Ottawa Jewish Archives is seeking photographs of the Murray Street synagogue before its demolition in 1979. Contact archivist Laurie Dougherty at 613-798-4696, ext. 260.

(Photo courtesy Ottawa Jewish Archives)

Foreman takes Jewish victory lap

By Marc Brodsky
and Gil Sheffer

NEW YORK (JTA) - Yuri Foreman used his time wisely between rounds of his super welterweight world championship bout against titleholder Daniel Santos.

Not only did he take liquids and instruction from his corner, the Orthodox rabbinical student sought some divine assistance in the last 10 seconds of each 60-second break of the 12-rounder.

"God, please give me strength," was his simple invocation.

Foreman related the tidbit at a November 19 reception at a posh kosher steakhouse on New York's East Side. The night before, he was the guest of honour at a Jewish National Fund gala.

Think of it as an ethnic-themed victory lap for Foreman, 29, who found enough strength to win a unanimous decision on November 14 in Las Vegas for the World Boxing Association crown.

The Brooklyn boxer, via Belarus and then Israel, moved to 28-0 since turning pro seven

years ago, even though most prognosticators figured he would fall to Santos.

At the reception, Foreman said he turns especially spiritual in the ring, gets "very close to God," because "another guy wants to take your head off."

Santos didn't take off Foreman's head, but the new champ, clad all in black for the fancy fete featuring some sumptuous steak and chicken, did need 18 stitches (of course it was 18) to close a cut over his left eye.

Foreman's spiritual mentor, Rabbi Dov Ber Pinson, said no other fighter can "balance spirituality and physicality" like Foreman, who he praised as a "gentle lion" breaking a lot of stereotypes about boxers and Jews.

What's next for Foreman?

The fighter said he'd have to consult with his "second rabbi" and promoter, Top Rank's Bob Arum. Foreman asked to know the veteran matchmaker's Hebrew name.

"Reuven Moshe ben Shlomo," Arum answered.

Should Foreman ever

fight in Israel, Arum already has the bout named: "Next Year in Jerusalem."

Attendees at the JNF Future gala event didn't have to wait that long to hang out with the new champ. Foreman was the guest of honour at the event, held at a club in New York's Soho district.

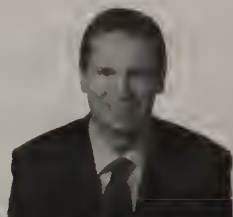
Organizers of the gathering, aimed at raising money for environmental causes in Israel, had booked Foreman well in advance of his title fight and were thrilled to have him there on one of his first public appearances since his victory in Vegas.

"It's amazing to have him here," said Gabrielle Carlan, one of the JNF Future promoters. "We've got a good turnout of 200-plus people, more than we had last year."

Foreman's wife, Leyla, told JTA at the event that she remained unusually calm during her husband's fight.

"Most fights I'm very tense," she said. "But this time I had a good feeling. He had done all the training and all the praying right. What more could he do?"

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Jewish life in Eastern Europe witness to many landmark moments since the fall of the Iron Curtain

By Ruth Ellen Gruber
(JTA) – Covering the development of Jewish life in Europe in the 20 years since the fall of communism, I have witnessed many landmark moments.

Among them are many firsts – the first rabbis to take up their posts, the first Bar Mitzvahs and Jewish weddings in decades, the first new synagogues, the first kosher restaurants, the first Jewish schools, etc.

There were also the first conflicts between Reform and Orthodox, between young generations and the establishment, between rival Jewish factions struggling for communal power.

Sometimes the symbolism was overwhelming: Jewish life and free expression of Jewish identity were re-emerging in the one-time Jewish heartland, in countries whose Jewish populations had been decimated by the Holocaust and where a



Konstanty Gebert, shown speaking at a Washington conference in 2007 about contemporary Jewish life in Poland, now heralds that life after saying, two decades earlier, that Jews had no future in Eastern Europe.
(Photo: Ruth Ellen Gruber)

Jewish presence was long considered a closed chapter of history.

The image it often conjured up for me was of frag-

ile tendrils emerging through ashes.

Over time, the tendrils took hold. The new life they represent is still delicate and

still needs a lot of nurturing – financial and otherwise. Eastern Europe's emerging Jewish communities face internal and external challenges, and it's doubtful that many of the tiny far-flung communities ultimately will survive.

But Eastern European Jewish life generally is here to stay. That was not at all apparent before the collapse of the Iron Curtain.

In Warsaw in the early 1980s, when I first met the Jewish author and journalist

Konstanty Gebert, the sense was that there was no future for Jews in Eastern Europe.

"I believe we are the last ones. Definitely," Gebert said then.

Recently, however, Gebert heralded Polish Jewish life, present and future.

"There is a Bar Mitzvah in my shul next week. The yearly Festival of Jewish Culture in Krakow is just around the corner. *Midrasz*, the Jewish magazine, comes to my mailbox regularly late, as always," he wrote in a recently published essay. "My younger son graduated from the city's Jewish school. My older son was press spokesman of the Warsaw kehilla for some time."

In Prague, where the affiliated Jewish community numbers at least 1,600 and the various Jewish denominations have five active synagogues, I remember the intensity of emotion at a 1992

ceremony when Karol Sidon, a writer and one-time anti-communist dissident, was inaugurated formally as the city's rabbi.

It was the eve of Rosh Hashanah, and a standing-room crowd filled the opulent sanctuary of the ornate Jubilee Synagogue.

"All my life, I've been moving in a circle toward the inauguration," Rabbi Sidon had told me a few days earlier. "People do things unconsciously; they don't always consciously decide what to do. Their subconscious leads them to it."

Rabbi Sidon was born in 1942 to a Jewish father who died in the Terezin concentration camp and a gentile mother who survived the war. As an adult, he formally converted and escaped to Germany, where he studied Judaism in the 1980s before completing his rabbinical

(Continued on page 29)



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Hungarian refugee publishes novel based on her Holocaust experience

By Benita Siemiatycki
Agnes Nemeth Bright became an author rather unexpectedly after a lifetime that included the anguish of war, a complex self-identity, relocation from Europe to Canada, career challenges and success, academic achievement, and the grief of loss.

Now, she's published her third book, *The House of the Yellow Star*, a fictionalized account based loosely on her childhood war experiences.

Agnes Nemeth was born in a small Hungarian town to a Jewish mother and Christian father. To provide safety to the family while anti-Semitism was reaching unprecedented heights, Agnes and her mother converted to Christianity. As a child, she had no idea what this meant or how it would shape her life.

Although raised Christian, Agnes fondly recalls Jewish holidays spent with her ma-

ternal grandfather and his wife, and with her mother's three sisters. She was very close to that side of the family. But, unlike her Jewish relatives, Agnes and her parents had the church looking out for them. As the Hungarian government assisted the Nazis in their single-minded obsession to round up Jews, both the Catholic and Protestant churches offered protection to children of mixed marriages and to Jewish spouses of Christians, she said.

By the spring of 1944, Jews were deported to camps all over Hungary. Young Agnes watched as the 'races' were separated. She and her mother went in one line; her mother's two sisters, father, and his wife went in another. She never saw them again. One aunt and her baby survived by being hidden by a Hungarian friend.

"No one really knew what was going on and the mean-

ing of the two lines. Industrial killing of people - that was simply unheard of and impossible to believe. I can't believe it now even thinking back," says Agnes.

Agnes, her mother and other Jews who married Christians, or were children of mixed marriages, were kept in a house with a yellow star. Hence her book's title, *The House of the Yellow Star*. They also wore yellow stars.

Agnes tells the story through the eyes of a teenaged girl and from the perspective of Jews who were not deported to extermination camps. Not enough, she feels, is known about this segment of the population and the fears and persecution they endured. The book is written for a young audience to offer them the historical perspective of someone who would have been their own age. She wrote the manuscript as if she were a teenager at the time, instead of the young girl that she was. She calls the book a "mother-daughter story."

In the spring of 1945, after a few close encounters with the Nazis, Agnes and her parents were freed when the Soviets liberated Hungary. The Nemeth family learned of the mass murders and the loss of the Jewish side of their family. Agnes' mother never got over the guilt she felt for surviving when the rest of her family perished.

In 1956, Agnes married Robert Bright, a Hungarian Jew who miraculously walked out of a gas chamber because of a miscount by the Germans. The miracle of his survival was matched by the despair of losing his entire family. Agnes and Robert participated in the Hungarian

revolution and, after its failure, and thousands of deaths, they were ready to start a new life. After months in a refugee camp in Austria, they came to Canada in 1957. They had both been university students in Hungary and educated immigrants were hot commodities for Canadian officials.

In Montreal, Agnes continued her engineering studies at Sir George Williams University (now Concordia), then worked for 10 years at an engineering firm in Montreal developing flight simulators. It was a tough environment for a woman. Agnes was a pioneer who won the respect of pilots, but was often challenged by her male peers who saw her as a threat.

With Quebec's October Crisis of 1970, fear and violence were again at their doorstep. The Brights packed up and moved to Ottawa. They bought a house surrounded by farmland in West Carleton, where Agnes still lives. Both became federal public servants. Agnes worked for Statistics Canada, then moved to the Department of Agriculture and, subsequently, to the Department of National Defence before retiring in 1994.

Tragedy struck in 1988 when Robert was killed in a car accident. Agnes turned to writing, mainly poems and



Agnes Bright

(Photo: Benita Siemiatycki)

short stories, to help deal with her grief and loneliness. After retirement, her love of books and writing led her to enrol in the English literature program at Carleton University. Her English improved and she loved being a student surrounded by young people. Agnes graduated with highest honours, mainly due to her maturity, she believes. "Interpreting things comes more to an adult than to a 20-year-old."

Suddenly one day, sitting at her computer, Agnes started writing a book. She saw the need to help women understand the grief process and

practical things, like wills and tax returns, which widows must deal with. *A Beginner's Book of Grieving: A Guide for Women* was published in 2000. The title is a pun, she says, because everyone is unprepared to face the death of a loved one - we are all beginners.

Her second book, *The White Witch of Glend'or*, is a collection of fairy tales she wrote to comfort herself after her husband's death.

The House of the Yellow Star is available at Chapters in Kanata Centrum or directly from Agnes Bright at brighan@travel-net.com.

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New sound system at SJCC

By Maxine Miska
Soloway JCC

The Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) has installed a new, improved sound system in the Social Hall. The system will make it expedient for the SJCC, the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and community organizations that do programming at the SJCC to hold lectures, show movies and present

slide shows.

The audio equipment also includes an assisted listening system to enable hearing impaired audience members to enjoy and participate in community programs.

The acquisition of this equipment was made possible through funding from New Horizons for Seniors and the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

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Maximizing Memory program helps seniors fight memory loss

By Jeremy Miller
Jewish Family Services

September saw Jewish Family Services of Ottawa (JFS) launch a new initiative aimed at combating memory loss by Jewish senior citizens. The Maximizing Memory program is an initiative that provides participants with a host of games and challenges to exercise their brains and keep their minds sharp and focused. There are two sessions per week for 13 weeks.

"This program is specifically designed for seniors who are just beginning to show signs of memory loss," said Karen Anne Blakely, director of Seniors Services at JFS. "One of the

key elements that makes this program unique is the fact that it is specifically designed to be culturally sensitive to needs of the participants."

The workshop is based on Jewish themes and traditions.

Along with the goal of maintaining memory, there are several other benefits to participating in the program.

"This program has the ability to improve the lives of our clients and their families," Blakely explained. "The first thing the program does is create a social and support network for the participants and care givers. The social aspect of the program, the coffee and tea breaks, the communal lunch prepared

by the participants, create a sense of belonging, which will assist with some of the issues of isolation that face the senior population."

To ensure the necessary one-on-one time with the programs leaders, the maximum number of participants per sessions is 10, which allows for the optimum amount of group and individual activities. The program also relies on several volunteers to assist throughout the half-day program.

The next session will begin in January. To find out if you or a loved one could benefit from this program, call Karen Anne Blakely at 613-722-2225, ext. 313.



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Machzikei Hadas renewal project includes singing Shabbat dinners

By Aviva Freedman
for Congregation
Machzikei Hadas

As one part of a large-scale renewal project, Machzikei Hadas has introduced a series of Friday night programs, open to the entire Jewish community, on the first Friday of every month.

The focus of these programs is to have a participatory Kabbalat Shabbat with singing, followed by a four-course gourmet dinner catered by Creative Kosher Catering.

Kabbalat Shabbat, is led by shul members whose goal is to engage all in singing the psalms in unison and to be-

come sensitized to the poetry of the service. The songs all draw on melodies that have become popular in the past 30 to 40 years among congregations in Israel and North America. Many of the melodies are Chassidic in inspiration, and all aim at evoking the joy and celebration surrounding the arrival of Shabbat.

The services are followed by family meals, with special prices for children and students. The meals, too, are occasions for singing, as new zemirot are taught and old ones are sung. The singing is accompanied by an explanation of the zemirot.

The singing Shabbat dinners are just one of many programs being introduced to Machzikei Hadas in its re-

newal project. Along with the renewal in programming, there have been extensive renovations to the synagogue's facilities. A Shabbat elevator and a beautiful lobby, with floor-to-ceiling windows, where programs and simchas can take place, were completed last year and the refurbishment of the social hall is almost complete.

Machzikei Hadas is happy to open its doors for the community to enjoy. The cost of the Shabbat dinners is \$30 (adults), \$18 (students), \$15 (children 12 and under) and free (children 5 and under). To RSVP or for more information, contact the office at 613-521-9700 or machzikei@magma.ca or visit machzikeihadas.com.

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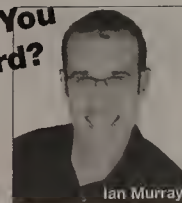
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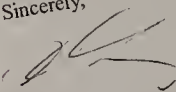
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Your child can make a difference by joining the B'nai Mitzvah Club today for as little as \$250 (with a matching donation of \$250 from the Goldfarb Fund). Starting a B'nai Mitzvah Fund is easy and rewarding. Your child will be joining a club with over 95 members sharing a common goal of supporting the Ottawa Jewish community agencies which provide valuable services for sustaining Jewish life today and for years to come.

For more information or to start up a fund in honour of a recent or upcoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah, please contact Francine Paulin at 613-798-4696 ext. 252.

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* In order to receive the matching contribution, allocations must be made to local Jewish agencies. One may choose to open a B'nai Mitzvah fund without the matching contribution, in which case, allocations can be made to any registered charity in Canada.

Jewish communities rise again in Eastern Europe

(Continued from page 25)
studies in Israel.

Rabbi Sidon, who is Orthodox, is still Prague's chief rabbi, though he was ousted briefly in 2005 during bitter infighting between Jewish community factions.

"I remember when all of us would be hiding in one synagogue and leaving in a way that no one would spot us," said Peter Gyori, deputy chair of the Federation of Czech Jewish Communities and also head of the non-Orthodox Beit Praha, recalling the bad old days when almost anything Jewish was suppressed or suspect.

"We live now in the luxury of fighting among various communities and groups," he said, "and not going to this or that synagogue."

In July 1995, Prague was the scene of another first – the first conference since the Holocaust that was dedicated to planning strategy for the future of Jews in Europe. It may seem odd to single out a conference as one of the key moments of Jewish development in post-communist Europe. But this one, "Planning for the Future of European

Jewry," was, in fact, a landmark.

The three-day meeting aimed to assert, for the first time, "that Jews in Europe can take the future into their own hands, an attitude inconceivable before 1989."

It drew 200 Jewish community leaders, policymakers and scholars from 25 countries across Europe, East and West, as well as from North America and Israel.

Participants included Orthodox and secular Jews, rabbis and laypeople. Many, meeting for the first time, forged networks that persist to this day.

The meeting was the first international forum to identify and outline many of the issues that have since dominated the European Jewish policy agenda: relations between Diaspora Jews and Israel; how to define Jewish identity and what constitutes a Jewish community; anti-Semitism and interfaith activities; the relationship of Jews to Europe; how to reach out to the unaffiliated.

Speaking to the meeting, Gebert described the Jews of post-communist Europe as



Hillary Clinton, then U.S. first lady, is accompanied on a July 1996 visit to the Warsaw Jewish community by Rabbi Michael Schudrich, then the director of Ronald S. Lauder Foundation activities in the Polish city.

(Photo: Ruth Ellen Gruber)

"shipwrecked Jews" who were struggling to reclaim a Jewish identity that had been submerged under communism, and in many cases did not know which way to turn.

The conference was an exciting moment – the first formal occasion in which the

concept of a post-communist, pan-European identity was broached.

As such, it reflected the energy and optimism that exploded after the fall of com-

munist and led many observers to dub the 1990s "the Jewish decade."

Czech President Vaclav Havel, whose first foreign trip after becoming president

in 1989 was to Israel, met with participants.

"I believe Jews will continue to live a life of their own," he said, "and that new generations will emerge."

SJCC seeks proposals from food service operators

The Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) is seeking proposals from responsible food service operators to design and operate a food service at the SJCC. A 'Request for Proposal' packet is available by contact-

ing Barry Sohn, SJCC president/COO at bsohn@jccottawa.com or 613-798-9818, ext. 268. E-mail requests are preferred. The food service will operate under the supervision of the Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut.

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For more information or to register:

Contact **Shawn Marmer**, Principal, Ottawa Talmud Torah Afternoon School
by email at ttas@magma.ca or by phone at 613-722-8827

Leon Gluzman honoured

Leon Gluzman, who lived in the Warsaw orphanage of Dr. Janusz Korczak during the 1920s, was honoured last month at a reception at the Irving Greenberg Theatre Centre benefitting the Ottawa School of Speech and Drama (OSSD) prior

to a performance of *The Children's Republic* by Hannah Moscovitch, a play about Korczak and his orphanage commissioned by OSSD and co-produced in November by OSSD and the Great Canadian Theatre Company.



Leon Gluzman with members of his family, OSSD officials and the playwright: (Left to right) daughter-in-law Beverly Gluzman; daughter Arlene Bonn; son David Gluzman; wife Gloria Krugel; granddaughter Naomi Levitz; Leon Gluzman; Amanda Lewis, artistic director of OSSD; daughter Cally Kardash; daughter Ingrid Levitz; playwright Hannah Moscovitch; and Natalie Stern, OSSD founder.

(Photo: Richard Ellis)



Leon Gluzman beside painting that depicts him, at age 13, with Dr. Janusz Korczak.

(Photo: Richard Ellis)

Sharansky fighting to connect youth with State of Israel

By Rita Poliakov

Canadian Jewish News

Natan Sharansky fought against the Communist regime in his native Soviet Union in the 1970s. Now, as the new chair of the Jewish Agency for Israel, he's fighting something different: Jewish apathy.

"Jews in the free world have no interest in Israel ... I [have been] on 70 different campuses. I can't say that the situation here [in Canada] is much worse, I also can't say it's much better," he said in an interview over breakfast at a downtown Toronto hotel.

"We're facing many hostile demonstrations, and liberal Jews who believe that, because they're Jews, they have to be the first to condemn Israel."

Sharansky, a human rights activist and former Israeli cabinet minister, visited Toronto last month to meet with Jewish organizations.

He said his goal as chair of the Jewish Agency, which has helped more than three million Jews immigrate to Israel since it was founded, is to help youth in the Diaspora strengthen their Jewish identity.

This is being done through programs such as MASA Israel Journey, which Sharansky wants to expand. MASA enables young Jews from all over the world to spend a semester to a year in Israel on any of over 160 programs. He also hopes to increase the number of high school trips to Israel through the agency.

As an example of why he wants to focus on youth, Sharansky said he was asked a disturbing question when he spoke at York University a few years ago.

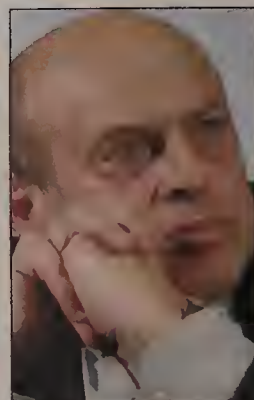
"The first question was, 'Why do I need Israel?'"

For Sharansky, the answer is simple.

"You're giving [students] the opportunity to belong," he said. "We're talking about their desire to be proud to belong to this path of history."

The main battlefield for Jewish identity is usually university campuses, Sharansky said.

"[There's] the idea that you're



Jewish Agency for Israel Chair Natan Sharansky.

now becoming part of the big world," he said, adding that it's harder for students without strong Jewish backgrounds to feel connected to Israel. "A lot of [people] are against Israel."

Sharansky paraphrased a lyric from the song "Imagine" by John Lennon: "There is nothing to die for," he said.

"It is very important to prove that this is a false idea. In a world where there is nothing to die for, there is nothing to live for."

In the late 1970s, Sharansky, who was born in the former Soviet Union, was sent to jail and convicted of treason and espionage while fighting for human rights.

As he embarks on a different fight for Jewish identity, Sharansky uses the same logic now as he did then.

"[Opinions] can be changed very quickly. The more you can succeed in bringing [students] the real [facts] of human rights, the rights of women, sexual minorities [in Israel], they are happy to hear it," he said.

For Sharansky, identity is synonymous with freedom.

"Jewish influence is weakening ... If you believe that it's better to live in the world where people have no identity ... we're powerless to defend ourselves against our enemies," he said.

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Gradus writes his story of a life spent in ballet

By Cynthia Nyman Engel

Lawrence (Larry) Gradus cannot remember a time when he didn't want to dance.

"I think I got the bug from the movies," says Gradus, who was born in the Bronx in 1936 and brought up during the heyday of Hollywood musicals.

And dance he did, from age seven on. Gradus trained in ballet at the Ballet Russe School and the American Ballet Theatre School in New York City. He joined the American Ballet Theatre and quickly rose from member of the corps to soloist in a repertoire that included works by Anthony Tudor, Angas DeMille, George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins. In 1959, he became a member of Jerome Robbins' Ballets U.S.A. performing around the world, as well as on Broadway and on television.

Sometimes, dancing a solo, he'd think to himself, "What's a Jewish boy from the Bronx doing up here?"

Gradus performed at a state dinner at the Kennedy White House in 1962, and the following year at the infamous birthday party for John F. Kennedy where Marilyn Monroe brought the house down with her breathy rendition of "Happy Birthday, Mr. President."

Gradus appeared on Ed Sullivan's *Toast of the Town*, and spun, leapt and pirouetted on stages in cities around the

world before joining Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in 1958. In 1974, he formed his own ballet company, Entre Six. Then, in 1980, Gradus moved to Ottawa to become founding artistic director of Theatre Ballet of Canada.

Gradus recently published his memoirs. *Wings on my feet... a dancer remembers* is a delightful, insightful and totally honest trip down memory lane and into the fascinating world of ballet. Names like Rudolph Nureyev, Herbert Ross, Erik Bruhn, and Mikhail Baryshnikov leap off the pages. Celia Franca is there. So is Jerome Robbins, among many others. Gradus brings them all to life with his easily readable style.

"When Jerry Robbins died in 1998, I was in shock. Even though Jerry was 85," he says. "Balanchine and Agnes de Mille had died before Jerry but, somehow, I thought he was forever."

"At any rate, I was so moved that I thought I'd sit down and write an article about it, about how I was feeling, about how I'd been drawn to dance. That," he says, "became the first section of the book."

"I was pleased with what I had written and I felt like I was choreographing another ballet," says Gradus, who knows a whole lot about choreography and what goes into it – he was the 1975 recipient of the Jean A. Chalmers

Choreographic Award.

Writing the book took 10 years.

"I drove Carol crazy," he chuckles. "She'd type it and then I'd rewrite it and then she'd retype it. It really was much like choreographing a ballet. First I had to get the ideas together, refine them, make sure they made sense, and then go on to the next part of the book."

"Ballets are done the same way," he says, "piece by piece."

Gradus met his wife, Carol (Weiner), through a mutual acquaintance in Ottawa. They've been happily married for 25 years. Carol laughs remembering their first date.

"We went to a ballet at the NAC with Celia Franca," she says, her eyes twinkling at the memory. "It was quite a first date. I sat on one side of Celia and Larry sat on the other!"

There is no question Gradus loved what he did. He positively glows when he talks about his professional dancing years.

"My advice to anyone would be that, no matter what your mother or father says, if you've got a passion, follow it."

"It's your life and you're the one who's going to be living it."

Wings on my feet by Lawrence Gradus is available online at wingsonmyfeet.net.



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The partners of BrazeauSeller LLP (front row, left to right): Fred Seller, Harold Feder, Najma Rashid; (back row) Don Brazeau, Jamie Wylie, Trina Fraser, Howard Yegendorf and Ron Prehogan.

BrazeauSeller LLP honoured for philanthropic commitment

By Cynthia Nyman Engel
This has been a banner year for BrazeauSeller LLP.

On November 1, the law firm celebrated its 20th successful year serving the Ottawa business community and, three days later, BrazeauSeller LLP was recognized as the year's Outstanding Small Business Philanthropist by the Ottawa Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

The award is presented annually to a small business that demonstrates philanthropic commitment to local charitable organizations. The company must be one that exhibits outstanding civic and charitable responsibilities and whose generosity encourages others to give back to the community. The presentation was made at a formal ceremony, November 4, at the Fairmont Château Laurier Hotel.

"We were nominated by John Ouellette of the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation," said Fred Seller, a founding partner of the firm. "And Eric Dean of the

Queensway Carleton Foundation supported the nomination. We've given a lot to the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation and we've done a lot of work with the Queensway Carleton Hospital Foundation."

The firm was taught early on by one of its mentors that it is important to give back to the community and equally important to ask others within the community to do the same. BrazeauSeller LLP readily adopted this approach to community and charity and has maintained it ever since.

Over the years, the partners of BrazeauSeller LLP have contributed to a wide variety of charitable organizations and educational institutions. They've done this through financial contributions as well as through donating significant amounts of time to sitting on various boards and volunteering their efforts.

One of these is the provision of a scholarship to the University of Ottawa Law School, awarded annually to someone from a diverse

background.

"The students must maintain a certain grade point average to receive the scholarship each year," explained Fred Seller. "So, in any given year, there may be as many as three students benefiting from the BrazeauSeller scholarship."

In addition to their involvement in worthy causes in the general community, the partners have had, and continue to have, a high profile in the Jewish community. Ron Prehogan is a past-president of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa; Howard Yegendorf is currently president of the Tamir hoard; Harold Feder chairs the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation; and Fred Seller sits on the boards of Hillel Academy and Yitzhak Rabin High School.

"We didn't become who we are in our 20th or our 15th year," said Seller. "This was part of our culture from day one. Before we made our first dollar it was always important for us to give back and frankly, we have seldom, if ever, said no to any worthy cause."

Section Two



Vladimir Muryne (left), with Israeli Ambassador Miriam Ziv and Canadian Society for Yad Vashem Executive Director Yaron Ashkenazi, is presented with the certificate honouring his grandfather, Martyn Vitiuk, as Righteous Among the Nations. With the certificate, Ziv and Ashkenazi hold the letters sent by three Holocaust survivors to Vitiuk thanking him for saving their lives.

(Photo: Peter Waiser)

Yad Vashem honours Martyn Vitiuk as Righteous Among the Nations

By Michael Regensstreif

Martyn Vitiuk was murdered in Ukraine in 1946. No one knows for certain the motive for his murder, hut, suggested Israeli Ambassador Miriam Ziv, "it could have been a consequence" of having sheltered and saved the lives of three Jews during the Holocaust.

In a ceremony at the Embassy of Israel in Ottawa, November 19, Vitiuk was posthumously honoured by Yad Vashem and the State of Israel as Righteous Among the Nations for risking his own life by sheltering the three Jews – Leih Baustein, Benyo Ponikwer and Kalmen Harnet – from June 1943 until March 1944.

Righteous Among the Nations is Yad Vashem's honour for non-Jews who risked their lives saving Jewish people during the Holocaust. The award is the highest honour Israel bestows on non-Jews. Yaron Ashkenazi, executive director of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem said that 22,757 gentiles have been so honoured for their heroism during the Holocaust.

After the war, the three Jews saved by Vitiuk settled in Israel and wrote letters – in Yiddish and Ukrainian – to thank him for saving their lives. The letters were kept by

Vitiuk's family and ultimately served as the proof Yad Vashem needed in its investigation to determine the worthiness of Vitiuk's Righteous Among the Nations nomination.

The certificate and medal honouring Vitiuk were accepted by his grandson, Vladimir Muryne.

Muryne, 68, knew his grandfather as a small boy. He immigrated to Canada with his family in 1998 and now lives in Ottawa.

"This is an important day for me and my family," said Muryne in accepting the award on behalf of his grandfather.

Muryne said his family was repaid for the actions of his grandfather when they came to Canada and were assisted here by a Holocaust survivor from Ukraine, who was a customer in the auto repair shop where his son, Andrij, worked.

The survivor, Stefan Moldovan, befriended the family and helped them settle in Canada. When Moldovan was shown the letters thanking Vitiuk, he put into motion the long process of determining the worthiness of a Righteous Among the Nations nomination. Moldovan, whose parents were killed in the Holocaust, was, himself, saved by a Ukrainian farmer.

Drama coach helps prepare Tamir actors for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*

By Sue Walker, Tamir

The cast is set, rehearsals are underway, and everything is on track for the most original production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* Ottawa has ever seen!

This production will showcase the talents of both Tamir participants and members of the acting community performing together on the Centrepointe Theatre stage for one night only. The joint partnership will demonstrate inclusion-in-action, a continuing goal of Tamir.

There are many talented and dedicated people coming together to make this show possible. One example is Gaviella Silverstone, who has joined the team to work with the cast as a drama coach. A recent graduate of Concordia University's Creative Arts Therapy program, Silverstone has worked with the Centre for Arts and Human Development as a performance coach. Her coaching centres around "assisting people with developmental disabilities in finding their voices as their stories transform theatrically on the stage."

Silverstone has performed in more than 20 theatrical productions and produced the Purim play for the Soloway Jewish Community Centre in 2008.

"My goal for the project is to create a cohesive, integrated cast regardless of the participants' levels of development," said Silverstone.

"Through the process of working together towards a full-scale theatre production, all actors will have a chance to challenge their preconceived notions and personal creative limitations. The medium of drama will be used as the great equalizer to push boundaries and to enrich each participant's experience. Ultimately, audiences will have the opportunity to witness a performance that embraces diversity and breaks the stigmas associated with developmental disabilities."

Tamir participants are very excited to be centre stage for this production and can't wait to entertain a packed house on May 13.

"I never dreamed I'd be on the stage at Centrepointe Theatre. It's going to be wonderful," said Debby Applebaum when asked what being a part of this production means to her.

This is an event not to be missed! Tickets for the performance, and a reception sponsored by Creative Kosher Catering, will go on sale in February at tamir.ca and centrepointetheatre.com.

For more information, call Tamir at 613-725-3519 or visit our website.



Debby Applebaum (left) and drama coach Gaviella Silverstone prepare a scene for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. (Photo: Sue Walker)

Chanukah feature

For success on the festival of oil, fry, fry again

By Linda Morel

(JTA) – Several Chanukahs ago, my husband came home with an electric deep fryer large enough to accommodate a 12-pound turkey. I'd heard of suburban folks frying turkeys in their garages, but, because we live in a Manhattan apartment, I was less than thrilled with the gigantic appliance – which I had no room to store.

That first Chanukah, however, I acquiesced to deep frying a turkey, which turned out to be more delicious than you can imagine. The bird was moist on the inside and crisp on the outside, an achievement that anyone who has roasted a turkey can tell you is no easy feat. Surprisingly, the bird didn't taste greasy.

Better yet, the preparation time was reduced from several hours to 45 minutes.

Since then, fried turkey has become one of our most treasured holiday traditions. Of course, on the first night of Chanukah, we fill four skillet with latkes. Nothing is crunchier than grated potatoes browned in spattering oil.

But, on another night of this eight-day holiday, we invite a crowd and deep fry a turkey. As we light colourful Chanukah candles, our apartment fills with the scent of serious searing. Watching the candles twinkle, our family and friends can't wait to gobble the turkey.

Deep fried turkey is a fitting way to celebrate Chanukah, the festival of oil, because its preparation requires several gallons of oil. But how did fried foods become entwined with Chanukah's culinary history?

It started more than 2,100 years ago, when the Greek king of Syria, Antiochus, occupied Israel. During his reign, the Jews and their customs fared poorly. When one of his officers arrived in a town outside Jerusalem, he demanded the Jews take part in a Greek ceremony that entailed bowing to an idol and eating pork, both of which are forbidden by Jewish law.

Outraged by such disrespect, the Maccabee family led a revolt to overthrow the occupiers. After defeating the Greek army, Judah

Maccabee and his men began restoring the great Temple in Jerusalem, which lay in ruin.

Candles had not yet been invented, so specially prepared olive oil was used to light the Temple's menorah. Finding only a one-day supply of the oil to keep the menorah burning, the Maccabees were awestruck that it lasted eight days, long enough for a new batch to be made.

This spawned the eight-day celebration of Chanukah and the custom of observing the holiday by frying foods in oil.

During the Maccabees' time, cheese pancakes were a popular fried food. Latkes weren't added to the Chanukah repertoire until centuries later. Jews from various countries now fry many kinds of foods, including doughnuts, fritters and pancakes.

My husband's family hailed from the Jewish community of Trieste, Italy, so every Chanukah we also deep fry rice balls. An Italian delicacy, these crunchy balls, held together with ricotta cheese, are a sensational hors d'oeuvres or side dish.

While fooling around in my kitchen, I've successfully fried some unexpected foods from Jewish cuisine into a whole new identity. Slices of sour pickles undergo a crusty transformation when they hit hot oil.

Chopped fish, eggs and matzah meal are usually mixed together to form patties that are simmered in broth to produce gefilte fish. But, instead of boiling these large oval patties, I roll the batter into small balls and deep fry them. After one taste, you'll never settle for bland gefilte fish again.

Frightened by the thought of dealing with raw fish? Forget the stories about your bubbe who tackled a live carp in her bathtub every time she cooked gefilte fish. Instead, ask your fishmonger to grind the haddock, whitefish or pike you order. From there, handling the fish batter is as easy as forming hamburger patties.

On the theory that you can fry anything, I suggest widening your Chanukah repertoire. Here are some ideas:

Submerge any kind of pitted

black or green olives (but not bottled or canned) into hot oil, where they will develop a delicious pucker within a minute or two;

If pressed for time, slide thinly sliced potatoes or florets of broccoli and cauliflower into a pot of hot oil until they turn delightfully brown. After placing them on paper towels and sprinkling with kosher salt, you'll savour every crisp mouthful;

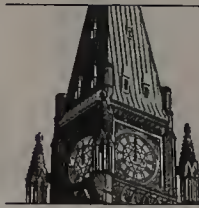
Canned chickpeas can be fried into a sensational hors d'oeuvre or snack. Dry them on paper towels. Put a mixture of curry powder, cumin, flour, paprika and a dash of cayenne pepper into a plastic storage bag. Place the chickpeas into the bag in batches, seal, and shake them until they're coated. Deep fry them in oil, drain on paper towels, sprinkle with kosher salt, and serve them immediately.

In spite of these other delicacies, I have to admit that I wait all year for Chanukah because of the crackling texture of potato pancakes. But I find I can eat latkes for only so many days in a row before seeking other foods to fry.

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IT DOES A WORLD OF GOOD

Mitzvah Kids learn by joining *Rabbi Mission*

By Pherris Hamilton
for
Ottawa Torah Centre
Chabad (OTC)

What is driving OTC's Chabad Hebrew School's enrolment up to more than 50 students in just four years?

"We had two goals in mind when we started the program," explains Dina Blum, founder and director of OTC's Chabad Hebrew School.

"We wanted to ensure that the kids of today enjoy and love the time they spend at Hebrew school, that, as they grow up, they will only have fond memories of their Jewish educational experience.

"Our second goal was to use a hands-on approach to learning where the children gain an appreciation for Judaism through active personal participation while having fun."

One example of such activities is *The Rabbi and the Mitzvah Kids*, a new program, part of the curriculum

for Grades 4 and 5, which provides a unique and creative educational tool that links Jewish learning to Jewish practice and living.

Once a month, the Mitzvah Kids enjoy an exclusive, extraordinary opportunity when they accompany Rabbi Blum, OTC's spiritual leader, on a *Mitzvah Mission* in and around our community.

Last month, the children and Rabbi Blum visited a family who had just moved into a new home and assisted the homeowner in putting a Mezuzah on every door post.

"The children were involved in putting the Mezuzahs together, in deciding which doorways needed them, as well as directing the exact placement and dealing with all the details of affixing the Mezuzah," explained Rabbi Blum.

"It was a great way to take the knowledge they had acquired while in the



The Mitzvah Kids of OTC's Chabad Hebrew School help Don Swalsky put up Mezuzahs throughout his new home.

classroom and put it into practice right away. This is the only way to bring Judaism alive for the children.

"The fact that they are coming with me on a *Rabbi Mission* makes it exciting and fun for them."

Night Moves A Syna-Gig experience

By Chelsea Sauvé
for Congregation
Beth Shalom

Synagogue concerts are not always the most exciting of events. Sure, occasionally, they are moving and spiritual, but 'excitement' is not a word one usually associates with shul. And with exams and exams looming, I was hesitant to put aside a Sunday evening for a concert at my synagogue – a *Syna-Gig*.

However, as a music lover, I thought I really should attend. So, armed with a resolve to keep an open mind, I left my studies, November 15, to go see Night Moves, a six-piece band fronted by Congregation Beth Shalom's own Cantor Daniel Benlolo and Micah Solomon.

I anticipated entering the ballroom, kissing my grandparents, staying for a short while with a modestly sized group of people, and then heading home to my school work.

Much to my surprise, entering the ballroom, I was greeted by the sound of 150 people gabbing and the lull of soft music playing in the background. The room was buzzing with chatter and music. It resembled a large



Night Moves (standing, left to right): Aviva Lightstone, Michael Pacitto, Joe Hincke, Mike McNeil; (seated) Micah Solomon and Cantor Daniel Benlolo.

simcha. Distracted by the large crowd bristling with anticipation, and the sense of *ruach* that filled the hall, I encountered familiar faces of all ages. I finally made my way over to my grandparents' table as the concert began.

We were treated to a wide variety of music – from Jewish/Yiddish songs, to classic Beatles tunes, to contemporary songs by Coldplay and Weezer that I listen to on the radio. People danced, sang along and chatted in the love-

ly and relaxed environment.

Looking at my watch as the band finished its second set, I was surprised to see that more than two hours had passed. As the band played the Beatles' "Hey Jude" to end the evening, I sat and watched my grandparents dance alongside an intergenerational mix of couples, teenagers and younger children swaying to the music.

My *Syna-Gig* experience proved to be lovely, an exciting hiatus from the stress of my studies.



Congregation Beth Shalom is pleased to announce that its membership has voted to affiliate with the Canadian Council of Conservative Synagogues.

The Board of Governors is confident that our new affiliation is consistent with Beth Shalom's orientation as a Synagogue practicing traditional Judaism with Orthodox liturgy.

The Canadian Council of Conservative Synagogues is a new dynamic organization and Beth Shalom looks forward to playing a significant role as the member Synagogue in the Nation's Capital.



THE BESS AND MOE GREENBERG FAMILY

Hillel Lodge

THE JOSEPH AND INEZ ZELIKOVITZ
LONG TERM CARE CENTRE

Life at the Lodge

Hillel Lodge is my home

By Natalie Silverman-McPhee

It's not easy to admit that it's time to move into a facility. We've all heard horror stories about long-term care homes, and I wondered why I was being "dumped" into one especially at a relatively young age like mine.

Just what am I doing here, with an "end stage" medical diagnosis? Will staff members hate me because I need so much help?

Questions like that kept going through my mind, until I came to realize that I had to alter my thinking about life, learn to accept death, and most importantly, learn to live for the moment.

Now that I've settled in, I'm so glad I made Hillel Lodge my home. Most of the credit goes to Lodge employees and my fellow-residents. They helped me understand that, for the most part, I was still independent; and they also helped lower my personal stress level. With hard work on their part and mine, and with the

grace of G-d, I have, to my amazement, seen another New Year, and now look forward to the future with anticipation.

My room is filled with the good wishes, cards, flowers, and balloons sent by the people who care about me. I've become so serene that I've changed the surname on my e-mail account to HAPPY!

Hard to believe that I was such a mess before coming here. There is so much to do, so many things to learn: the physiotherapy and yoga programs; the social events; and the trusty old computer with its Internet connection that has brought the technological age to the grey-haired crowd.

With my fellow residents, I watch movies, including Jewish movie classics borrowed from the SJCC library across the street. Our proximity to the SJCC allows us to attend events there and to use its salt water pools and gym facilities.

There are even Yiddish Theatre events (either rehearsals or shows, free of charge!). My calendar is full, and the volunteers are so special that I have hardly any time to feel sorry for myself, even if I wanted to.

At the Lodge, life has become worthwhile again, and I've learned how to laugh.

Thanks to the Administration, the caregivers, the Volunteers and the Auxiliary for making Hillel Lodge – OUR HOME.



Biking for Bubbies

Biking for Bubbies, held on Sunday, September 13 was a huge success raising just under \$65,000. This money will help cover the increasing gap between government funding and the cost of providing high quality care to our residents. Our thanks to all of the cyclists who rode; to the many people who sponsored them; and, of course, to the organizers of this fantastic event.



Hillel Lodge Auxiliary Tea

This year's tea, in honour of former Auxiliary President and longtime volunteer extraordinaire Dora Litwack, was held on Sunday, October 25. Pictured is Mrs. Litwack with members of the Auxiliary. The proceeds of this well-attended event will help purchase needed equipment and supplies for residents' therapeutic and recreational needs.

Hillel Lodge is proud of the quality care we provide to our residents. To make a donation, please contact the Long-Term Care Foundation at (613) 728-3900 extension 111 or e-mail us at donations@hillel-ltc.com.



Hillel Lodge
LONG-TERM CARE FOUNDATION

*In support
of the Bess and Moe
Greenberg Family
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In the Joseph
and Inez Zelikovitz
Long Term Care Centre*

Card Donations

Card donations go a long way to improving the quality of life for our residents. Thank you for considering their needs and contributing to their well-being.

On behalf of the residents and their families, we extend sincere appreciation to the following individuals and families who made card donations to the Hillel Lodge Long-Term Care Foundation between October 29 and November 18, 2009 inclusive.

HONOUR FUNDS

Unlike a bequest or gift of life insurance, which are realized some time in the future, a named Honour Fund (i.e., endowment fund) is established during your lifetime.

By making a contribution of \$1,000 or more, you can create a permanent remembrance for a loved one, honour a family member, declare what the Lodge has meant to you and/or support a cause that you believe in.

A Hillel Lodge Honour Fund is a permanent pool of capital that earns interest or income each year. This income then supports the priorities designated by you, the donor.

Bill and Leona Adler Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Doris Finn by Marilyn Adler and Neil Blacher
Lillian Kahan by Marilyn Adler and Neil and Daniel Blacher

Sarah Swedler by Marilyn Adler and Neil Blacher

In Honour of:

Dora Litwack Mazal tov on being honoured by the Auxiliary at the annual tea by Marilyn Adler

Marla and Mark Spergel Wishing you good luck and happiness in your new home by Elaine Adler, Farley, Jordan and Benjamin Stenzler

R'fuah Shlema:

Blanche Osterer by Elaine Adler and Farley, Jordan and Benjamin Stenzler

Samuel and Jean Akerman Memorial Fund

In Honour of:

Dora Litwack Mazal tov on your very well deserved recent honour by Sheila and Larry Hartman

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Elissa Iny Wishing you a wonderful special birthday by Sheila and Larry Hartman

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In Observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Fanny Friedberg and Sidney Friedberg
Beloved parents, by Elaine Friedberg

In Honour of:

Murray Kaiserman Happy special birthday by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale
Faigy Muroff Happy special birthday by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale

Faigy and Zachary Muroff Mazal tov on the birth of your newest granddaughter by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale

Rabbi Zischa and Mrs. Lauren Shaps
Mazal tov on Yoey's engagement to Sora Mimna Yachnes by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale

Malcolm and Vera Glube Endowment Fund

In Memory of:

Sarah Swedler by Vera and Malcolm Glube

Nell Gluck Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Hy Calof by Maureen and Henry Molot; and
Manny Gluck and Cheryle Hothersall

Morton Kaiserman by Maureen and Henry Molot

In Honour of:

Dr. S. Kronick Happy birthday wishes from us all. To 120! By Maureen and Henry Molot and family

Monique and Irwin Lithwick Mazal tov on the birth of another grandchild by Maureen and Henry Molot

Leah and Issie Scarowsky Mazal tov on Shuli's engagement. We wish you continuing nachas from your children and grandchildren by Maureen and Henry Molot

Moe Greenberg and Elissa Greenberg Iny Family Fund

In Memory of:

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Sam Gershon by Elissa and Avraham Iny
Gerry Levitz by Elissa and Avraham Iny
Max Zelikovitz by Elissa and Avraham Iny

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Elissa Iny With our best wishes on your special birthday by Roz and Arnie Kimmel and family

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In Memory of:

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Claire and Irving Bercovitch Mazal tov and best wishes on the Bat Mitzvah of your granddaughter, Dahlia by Dorothy Karp

Dora and Sam Litwack Mazal tov and best wishes on the Bar Mitzvah of your grandson, Ryan by Dorothy Karp

Morris and Lillian Kimmel Family Fund

In Memory of:

Hy Calof by Janet, Steve, Tobin and Aaron Kaiman; and Brenda, Nathan, Jesse and Daniel Levine

Sarah Swedler by the Kimmel, Kaiman and Levine Families

R'fuah Shlema:

Daniel Levine by Auntie Janet, Uncle Steve, Tobin and Aaron Kaiman

Jesse Levine by Auntie Janet, Uncle Steve, Tobin and Aaron Kaiman

Blanche Osterer by Janet, Steve, Tobin and Aaron Kaiman

In Honour of:

Sylvia and Charlie Levine Mazal tov and Happy Anniversary with all our love Brenda, Nathan, Jesse, Daniel and Morris

Harry Rosenberg Mazal tov on your 2nd Bar Mitzvah by the Kinmel, Kaiman and Levine families

Bill and Phyllis Leith Family Endowment Fund

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Sam and Dora Litwack Family Fund

In Memory of:

Sarah Swedler by Dora and Sam Litwack

In Honour of:

The Hillel Lodge Auxiliary My sincere thanks for all your efforts and support in making the tea such a wonderful success by Dora Litwack

Patty Haas In appreciation for making the tea so beautiful by Dora Litwack

Diane Langdon With appreciation and thanks for your donation of the beautiful flowers by Dora Litwack

Issie Scarowsky With appreciation and thanks for taking the pictures at the tea by Dora Litwack

Abe and Bertha Palmer Endowment Fund

In Memory of:

Celia Baltzen by Sunny and John Tavel
Doris Finn by Sunny and John Tavel

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Esther Sadinsky by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

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Evelyn Krane Congratulations on the engagement of your grandson Josh to Jaclyn Schwartzman by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

Myra and Sam Krane Congratulations on the engagement of your son Josh to Jaclyn Schwartzman by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

Norman Zagerman Best wishes on your special birthday by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

Rosenthal/McCormick Family Fund

In Memory of:

Lillian Kahan by Helen Rosenthal

Shelley and Sidney Rothman Family Fund

In Memory of:

Doris Finn by Shelley Rothman
Lillian Kahan by Shelley Rothman

Irma and Harold Sachs Family Fund

In Memory of:

Sarah Swedler by Irma Sachs

In Honour of:

Cayla and Michael Baylin Mazal tov on the birth of your new grandchild by Irma and Harold Sachs

(Continued on page 39)

**THE LODGE EXPRESSES ITS SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT
AND APOLOGIZES FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS, THE WORDING APPEARING
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GIVING IS RECEIVING – ATTRACTIVE CARDS AVAILABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Here's a good opportunity to recognize an event or convey the appropriate sentiment to someone important to you and at the same time support the Lodge. Card orders may be given to Debra or Rhonda at 613-728-3900, extension 111, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Friday. You may also e-mail your orders to donations@hillel-ltc.com. E-mail orders must include name, address, postal code, and any message to person receiving the card; and, amount of donation, name, address and postal code of the person making the donation. Cards may be paid for by Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Cheque or Cash. Contributions are tax deductible.



(Continued from page 38)

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Doris Finn by Rachel, Howard, Davida and Josh Schachter

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In Memory of:

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Sylvia Morris by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

Esther Sadinsky by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

Sarah Swedler by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

In Honour of:

Bertha and Gunther Krebs Mazal tov on the marriage of your grandson by Bunnie Cogan

Susan and Charlie Schwartzman Mazal tov on the engagement of your daughter Jaclyn to Josh Krane by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

Leah and Issie Scarowsky Mazal tov and best wishes on the engagement of your daughter by Debra and Stephen Schneiderman

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In Memory of:

Morton Kaiserman by David Shohet and Miriam Sabo and family

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In Memory of:

Morton Kaiserman by Leona and Label Silver

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R'fuah Shlema: Blanche Osterer by Leona and Label Silver

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A very generous donation to this fund was made by Lazaro Sternic

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In Memory of:

Doris Finn by Arnie Swedler

Sarah Swedler by Snookie and Norman Lomow; Golda Feig and Ned Steinman; Rita Homstein; Cynthia and Malcolm Rose; Sybil and Sol Goldmaker; Rhoda, Jeff, Howard and Sara Miller; Ethel and David Malek; Simmy Gardner; Edie Landau; Stan Kimmel and Carol Spiro; Roslyn and Arnie Kimmel; Elaine and Norman Wolfish; Arlene and Norm Glube; Marjorie and Michael Feldman; Leah and Bob Gencher; Debbie, Michael, Noah and Lauren Greenberg; Lois and Stuart Johnston; Frances and Garret Johnston; Sandra and Jackie Levinson; Barbara and David Kates; Bonnie, Richard, Samantha and Sabrina Szirtes; Melissa and Ian Shabinsky and family; Diane Yancovitch; Laya and Sol Shabinsky; Lilyan Philipp; Betty and Ed Rose; Penny Toronto; Glenn Wolff and family; Cally and Sid Kardash; Laura Greenberg; Sara and Hugh Shabsove; Clara and Issie Bidner; Wendy and Ken Radnoff; and Sandra and Samuel Zunder and family; Ruth Mendell; A Touch of Klez; Maria Cook; Carole and Norman Zagerman and Andrea Arron; Bruce Whyte (Welch LLP); Jodi and Dean Kathron; Merle and Irving Gencher; and Anita and Michael Roodman; Sunny and John Tavel; Evelyn and Joe Lief; and Maggie and Bob Lederman and family

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Doris Finn by Roz, Myles Taller and family

Lillian Kahan by Roz, Myles Taller and Julia and Eriana

Sarah Swedler by Roz, Myles Taller and family

In Honour of:

Eriana Vargas Love and best wishes for a very happy 5th birthday by Bubby Roz, Zaidi Myles, Alexa and Selina

R'fuah Shlema: Blanche Osterer by Roz and Myles Taller

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Sarah Swedler by Mara and Isaac Muzikansky; and Etbel and Abe Murray

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Bernie Rosenblatt With much appreciation by Morris Schachnow

A generous donation was made to this fund by Anne Abrams

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Beloved father of Beth Coviensky Morien by Evelyn and Howard Silverman

Devora Duniz by the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge

Doris Finn by Ingrid Levitz; Susan Greenberg; the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge; Millie Schaenfield; Sandra and Sam Zunder; Marion Silver and Alan Brass and Lawrence, Rafi and Shira; Merle and Ricky Moses and family; Evelyn and Howard Silverman; Joyce and Milton Kimmel; Debi and David Shore; Shirley and Shier Berman and family; Edie Landau; Evelyn and Joe Lief; Bev and Bryan Glube; Edna and Seymour Eisenberg; Wally Parsons; Riva Levitan and Richard Roth and family; and Nina and Mark Dover

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Zachary and Shelby Levine; Barbara and Sid Cohen; Joy and Eric Weisbloom; Ruth Silbert and Shannon Conway and family; Roz and Steve Fremeth; Joanna and Ira Abrams and family; and Ingrid Levitz

Gerry Levitz by Carol and Steve Dworkin; Snookie Lomow; and Nina and Mark Dover

Sylvia Morris by Arlene and Norm Glube; Libby and Leo Ratner; and Rhonda and Danny Levine

Esther Sadinsky by Rhonda, Danny, Samuel, Zachary and Shelby Levine; Dee and Yale Gaffen; and Bev and Bryan Glube and family; and Ingrid Levitz

Hugh Shabsove by the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge; and Evelyn and Joe Lief

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Beloved Mother of Tom Trueman by Golda Feig and Ned Steinman

Max Zelikovitz by Ingrid Levitz

IN HONOUR OF:

Janice Charbonneau Thank you for your ongoing kindness by Cantor Daniel Benlolo

Marjorie and Michael Feldman Mazal tov and best wishes on becoming grandparents by Roz and Steve Fremeth; and Betty and Ed Rose

Laurie Pascoe Gentleman. Scholar. Friend. Best wishes on your special birthday and many more by Roslyn Nudell, Laurence Wall, Elana and Alexa; and Marsha and Warren Black

Helen Rosenthal Wishing you a very happy birthday and good health by Ruth Silbert and Shannon Conway and family

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Rosner To my beloved sister and brother-in-law with best wishes on your 64th wedding anniversary by Bela Gelbman

Dundi Sachs Wishing you a very happy birthday with love by Queenie Teichman

Leah and Issie Scarowsky Mazal tov on the engagement of your daughter by the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge

R'FUAH SHLEMA:

Shirley Besner by Beverly and David Gluzman

**Readers and advertisers are advised
that the next edition**

of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

will be published on Monday, January 25, 2010.

The deadline date is Wednesday, January 6, 2010.

Rethinking how we select speakers for our events

By now, many of you have learned about the brouhaha stemming from Brigitte Gabriel's address at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Women's Campaign Choices event on November 5. The controversy generated by Gabriel's speech led Mitchell Bellman, president and CEO of the Federation, to rightly issue a community-wide letter in which he states that, in his opinion, some of the things Gabriel has said "are unacceptable gross generalizations of Arabs and Muslims."

In the introduction to her Q&A session with Gabriel last year in the *New York Times Magazine*, columnist Deborah Solomon described Gabriel as a "radical Islamophobe," and Gabriel was quoted in the piece as saying the Muslims are "taking over the West. They are doing it culturally inch by inch." Gabriel regularly describes the entire "Arabic world" as "barbaric."

This is not solely an Ottawa issue. In Canada, Gabriel has also spoken to the Jewish Federation in Hamilton and to Hadassah-WIZO in Toronto. After an address to a Jewish Federation in Florida last year, in which she called then-presidential hopeful Barack Obama an "anti-Semite," United Jewish Communities President Howard Rieger told JTA that he "condemned such expressions in the strongest possible manner."

1. and many others, registered protests over Gabriel's talk (including what was surely a hefty price tag for her services) and do appreciate the timely leadership shown in Bellman's response. His letter invites discussion about what constitutes hate speech, and input on policies regarding speaker-selection criteria. In that spirit, here are six points I think we should keep in mind when we consider whom to invite to enlighten and entertain us.

Ethics before aesthetics. Some apparently objected to last year's Choices speaker, author Ruth Andrew Ellenson, for her uninspired delivery and for what they saw as a weak message. (For my part, I tend to give wide latitude to thinkers in the business of examining collective identity, so I enjoyed her.) Nevertheless, when word gets out that there is a dynamic speaker on the circuit, we need to think carefully about her or his message before getting bowled over by a body mike and clever choreography.

Remember that the deck is stacked. In a democracy, I believe we are morally obliged to tread carefully when we hold public events that are, by their nature, limited to members of one ethnic or religious group. At a Jewish event, our non-Jewish friends, colleagues and even family members simply don't have a forum from which to respond. So, while I admire Canadian author Irshad Manji – the speaker at the 2007 Choices event – for encouraging her audience to challenge extremism wherever it exists, I still wonder whether a Jewish group should be inviting a speaker to talk about "the trouble with Islam." Let's leave the focus on other religions for multifaith forums where they can have their say too.

Shades of grey can be exciting too. Many public figures rely on a sensational portrayal of the world as good-versus-evil and us-versus-them. Let's invite speakers who challenge our black-and-white assumptions and allow for complexity. Along these lines is the consideration of our own role in explaining global outcomes. Things don't just happen out there. We are all a part of it. This kind of stance can help build bridges with other communities and bring about true Tikkun Olam – not the kind that Gabriel absurdly gave lip service to in her opening remarks.

Context is key. When wading into difficult issues such as Middle East politics, a full picture is better than a skewed one. Gabriel spoke of the Muslims trying to "take over" her country, and Israel saving her life. But she neglected to mention the most basic premise of the Lebanese civil war: the Christians' refusal to readjust the delicate power-sharing arrangement in parliament once the demographics

changed. And Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 in part to install a friendly Christian regime – a war that many Israelis protested vociferously, and continue to examine in films such as last year's Oscar-nominated *Waltz with Bashir*.

Keep the kishkes in check: Fear can breed intolerance. And there is much to fear in our broken world. Women worry whether we can walk safely after dark; Jews hope that our cemeteries don't get desecrated; North Americans pray that a terrorist attack isn't around the corner. But, as my rabbi says, we need to make sure that the decisions we make aren't guided by our kishkes: we need to keep our brains and hearts in the game too.

Just say no – to hate. I would like to think that it goes without saying that hate, racism and incitement are nakedly unacceptable. But somehow Gabriel – who makes a living from the currency of Muslim-bashing – was still invit-

Did you know about our Olympic torch bearers?

Journalist Stephanie Levitz is covering the 2010 Winter Olympics for Canadian Press and went to Greece to report on the lighting of the Olympic Torch. Now based in Vancouver, she will be carrying the torch there. When the torch passes through Ottawa on December 12, watch for business lawyer and athlete Debbie Weinstein who will carry it for 300 metres on Somerset Street. Tova Silverman, daughter of Margo and Judah Silverman, will be a torch bearer on December 29 when the flame is near Collingwood, Ontario.

It's amazing the heights people will go to for charity. In January, husband and wife team Judy Field and Murray Kronick will be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak, with an elevation of 5,895 metres. A dedicated member of Na'amat Ottawa, Judy has decided to use her climb to raise funds for the Na'amat Canada Glickman Centre for Family Violence Prevention in Israel. Her goal is to raise \$6,000 – one dollar for every metre of the mountain's altitude. To donate, go to tinyurl.com/naamatottawa.

Nine-year-old Jacob Aaron had the honour of presenting a bouquet of flowers to Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall on their departure from Canada, November 12. A Grade 4 student at École élémentaire publique Michaëlle-Jean, Jacob was selected because of his diligence and hard work in school as well as his understanding of the world.

Phenom Eitan Maoz was awarded a scholarship and has been playing baseball for Genesee Community College in New York state. His team won the Western New York Athletic Conference Fall Baseball Championship, and Eitan led in votes for the first team all conference honours. The school's webpage describes Eitan as "impressive behind the plate defensively throwing out 92 per cent of potential base stealers while hitting .280 and having a .407 on base percentage."

Team captain Michael Diener led the Dalhousie University Tigers Men's Lacrosse team to another successful season in the Maritime University Field Lacrosse League. Also on the team is rookie Ryan Baker who scored some key goals that helped propel the team to the championship against arch rival St. Francis Xavier.

Fourteen-year-old aspiring filmmaker Jordan Rosenbloom's music video is a YouTube sensation. Starring his friend Aaron Miller singing along to the Miley Cyrus song "Party in the U.S.A.," the video also features a group of fabulous teenage girls including Abigail Lief, Rebecca Levy and Rebecca Ostroff as background dancers. With more than 13,000 views to date, they're looking to make their mark in YouTube history. Check it out at tinyurl.com/aaronmiller and help them reach their goal of one million views.

Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka, the honorary chaplain of the



Values, Ethics, Community

Mira Sucharov

ed by our community. Therefore, I suggest that we look at the record of the speaker we're considering. Substitute the word Jew for every time she or he speaks about any other ethnic or religious group. If it fails the anti-Semitism test, take a pass. This is not about political correctness. It is about decency, civility and humanity.



Did you know?

Benita Baker

Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion, delivered the benediction at the Remembrance Day ceremony at the National War Memorial.

Former Ottawan Ian Schwey is a real celebrity in the advertising world. Now based in Toronto, Schwey has earned some of the most prestigious honours the advertising world offers, including awards from Communication Arts Magazine and the Cannes Lions International Advertising Festival, where 250 jury members judge more than 22,000 pieces of the most creative advertising from across the world. Check out his prize-winning work at ianschwey.com.

Business partners Stewart Chadnick and Pat Flesher of Pat Flesher Furs played a key role in the *Stepping Out for Hopewell* event that raised \$81,000 for the Hopewell Eating Disorder Support Centre. They provided the furs for the evening's fashion show and also surprised all the women in the room with a gift of a black fur boa.

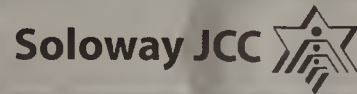
Peter and Debbie Szirtes made the social column of the *Ottawa Citizen* when they bought a signed, limited edition self-portrait by Leonard Cohen at Reach Canada's 29th Annual Auction.

Louise Rachlis, advertising features editor at the *Ottawa Citizen*, completed her 22nd marathon in New York City on November 1. What makes this even more special is that Rachlis only began running marathons when she turned 50! Her husband, retired director of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, Lorne Rachlis, was guest speaker at the Canadian Future Achievers Awards gala dinner held at Christ Church Cathedral, November 13. Canadian Future Achievers is a motivation-based program that complements the efforts of schools in rewarding attitudes of positive self-fulfillment in minority youth.

Jason Bailey, now playing for the Binghamton Senators, the Ottawa Senators farm team, scored the winning goal in a game against the Montreal Canadiens farm team, the Hamilton Bulldogs, at the Bell Centre in Montreal on November 6. Unfortunately, when the teams met again, two days later in front of a hometown crowd at Scotiabank Place, the Senators lost.

Do you know something we all should know? Tell me, so I can tell the community. My e-mail address is didyouknowottawa@gmail.com.

VACATION BREAK CAMPS



"Vacation time is a fun time, and that is exactly what camp is all about. Enjoy indoor and out door activities, games, crafts, science, videos, swimming, field trips, and more. Please send a nut-free and pareve lunch. Register by the day or per week.

Kindergarten - Grade 6
\$35M/day \$50NM/day
\$30M/day (additional child) • \$45NM/day (additional child)

DECEMBER WINTER BREAK CAMP (8:30 am - 4:00 pm)
Monday December 21 Monday December 28
Tuesday December 22 Tuesday December 29
Wednesday December 23 Wednesday December 30
Thursday December 24 Thursday December 31

PD DAYS

*A minimum of 6 children are needed to run each PD Day

Friday December 4 • 8:30 am - 3:00 pm (Ottawa-Carleton)
Friday February 12 • 8:30 am - 3:00 pm (Hillel Academy & Ottawa-Carleton)
Monday April 12 • 8:30 am - 4:00 pm (Ottawa-Carleton)

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT

Gail Lief: 613-798-9818 ext 303 • glief@jccottawa.com
(Holiday Camps) Jon Braun: 613-798-9818 ext 267 • jbraun@jccottawa.com

HILLEL ACADEMY FEBRUARY BREAK CAMP (8:30 am - 4:00 pm)
Tuesday February 16 Wednesday February 17
Thursday February 18 Friday February 19

OTTAWA-CARLETON MARCH BREAK (8:30 am - 4:00 pm)
Monday March 15 Tuesday March 16
Wednesday March 17 Thursday March 18
Friday March 19

HOLIDAY BREAK CAMPS @ THE 'J'

COACH BROWN'S BASKETBALL CAMP

December 21, 22, 23 • 9:00 am - 3:30 pm (Early drop-off and after-camp care are free) • \$120M / \$150NM

NEW YEARS SPORTS CAMP

We'll be having a blast at the 'J' as we approach the New Year! Mornings are for swimming and lots of sports, afternoons are for road trips. We'll be bowling, skating, going to movies, the wave pool & golfing.

December 28, 29, 30, 31 • \$200M / \$225NM

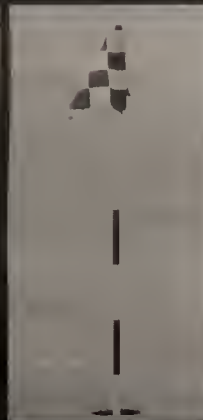
SAVE THE DATE! YOM HA'ATZMAUT

Tuesday, April 20, 2010 • Ottawa Civic Centre




SAVE THE DATE! DESERT CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

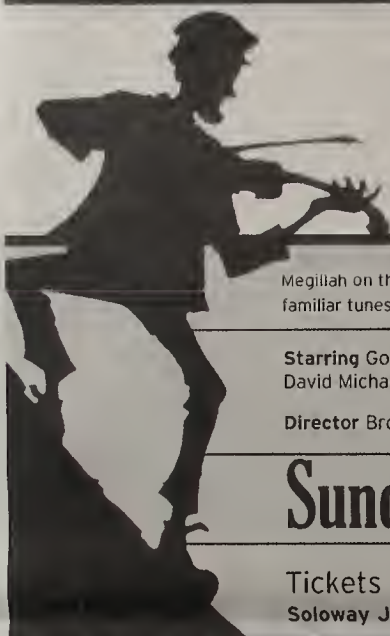
Thursday, June 17, 2010
Loch March Golf and Country Club



For more information please contact Sharon Diamond • 613.798.9818 ext. 225 • sdiamond@jccottawa.com • www.jccottawa.com

VERED ISRAEL CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS & THE SOLOWAY JCC PRESENT
Third Annual Community Wide Purim Shpiel

Soloway JCC 



Megillah on the Roof

Megillah on the Roof recounts the story of Mordechai, Queen Esther, King Achashverosh, Vashti and Haman through the familiar tunes of the famous Broadway musical and blockbuster film "Fiddler on the Roof".

Starring Golda Feig Steinman • Jan Jones • Marsha Kaiserman • John Kershman • Sylvia Kershman • Tova Lyncl
David Michaelson • Debi Shore • Dana Strauss • Donna Strauss • Evan Weiner • Joel Yan

Director Bronwyn Steinberg / **Producer** Roslyn Brozovsky Wollock / **Musical Director** Aviva Lightstone


Sunday, February 21 • 7:00 pm

Tickets on sale January 18

Soloway JCC members and seniors \$10 / Non members \$20 / Refreshments will be served

For more information please contact Roslyn Brozovsky Wollock at 613.798.9818 ext. 254 or rwollock@jccottawa.com

MORE TO DISCOVER

Soloway JCC 

ENLIGHTENED JEWISH EDUCATION

New! Tantzilizing Tales from the Talmud

- with Rabbi Charles Popky

Thursday, January 14 - March 4 • 11:00am - 12:00pm

NEW! WINTER WORKSHOPS

NEW! HEBREW CALIGRAPHY - BEGINNER

with Hyman Cooper • Thursday, February 18

1:00pm - 3:00pm

NEW! GREETING CARD CREATIONS

with Catherine Gee • Thursday, February 4

1:00pm - 3:00pm

NEW! COUNTED CROSS STITCH - BEGINNER

with Ellen Asherman • Thursday, February 25, March 4, 11

1:00pm - 3:00pm

NEW! BASIC PHOTOSHOP (DIGITAL IMAGING EDITING) - with Jim Lamont
Wednesdays, January 20 - February 17 • 11:30am - 1:00pm

TALLIT WEAVING - with Janet Martin - Wednesdays, March 3 - April 14 • 6:30pm - 9:30pm

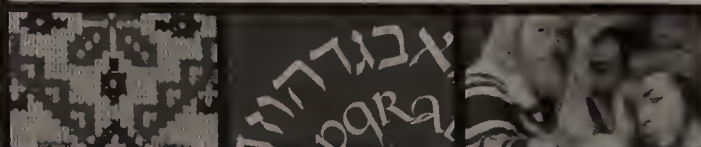
BASIC DIGITAL CAMERA WORKSHOP FOR BEGINNERS - with Jim Lamont
Wednesdays, January 20 - March 3 • 2:00 - 3:30pm

ACRYLIC ART - with Bryna Cohen - Wednesdays February 3 - 24 • 1:00pm - 3:15pm

CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING - with Rowena Tolson - Thursdays January 14 - March 4
9:30am - 11:30am


WATERCOLOR - LEVEL 1 AND 2 - with Rowena Tolson - Mondays January 11 - March 8
9:30am - 11:30am

Please refer to the Soloway JCC Winter Program Guide for information on our Hebrew and Spanish language courses and dance programs.



For more information please contact Roslyn Brozovsky Wollock at 613.798.9818 ext. 254 or rwollock@jccottawa.com

SUPERSITTERS

Soloway JCC 

Baby Sitting Course

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Soloway JCC

AGES 11+


\$65M • \$85NM

Instructed by
St. John's Ambulance

For more information contact Gail Lieff: 613.798.9818 x303 • glieff@jccottawa.com

MORE CELEBRATION



Soloway JCC 

Come experience the magic of
Michael Bourada
Magician & Illusionist



\$5.00
per child
\$2.00
per adult

The Soloway JCC & Jewish Education through Torah Present

Chanukah Celebration

Magic Land

Sunday, December 13, 2009

1:00-3:00PM • Soloway JCC • 21 Nadolny Sachs Private

Enjoy...

Hot Latkes, Chanukah Songs,
Cupcake Decorating

For more information contact

Gail Lieff: 613-798-9818 x303 • glieff@jccottawa.com or
Rochel Goldbaum: 613-798-9818 x229 • rgoldbaum@jccottawa.com



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- To remember
- To congratulate
- To honour
- To say I care



TREES HAVE BEEN PLANTED

Condolences to:

The Abaiov family in memory of your father by Maureen & Mark Farovitch

Shirley Ahramsky in memory of Mortimer Ahramsky by Raymond Goldman

Celia & Harvey Atkins in memory of Manley Tessler by Joan & Russell Kronick, by Young & Stern Families

Helen Brent in memory of your father Andy by Fern, Arielle & Elie

Ron Calhoun in memory of your brother Fred by Norman & Myrna Barwin

The family of the late Hy Calof by Brian & Rochelle Pearl, by Tom & Alannah Grossman, by Mario & Miriam Burke

The family of the late Ray Cammack by Barbara and Pinchas Pleet

Denis Castonguay in memory of Therese Gagnon-Castonguay by Gerald & Cindy Stone

Beth Chernick in memory of Eufemia Aureliano by Ethel & David Malek

Howard Cohen in memory of Lillian Cohen by Brian & Rochelle Pearl

Jacques Corbin in memory of Jacqueline Corbin by Phyllis Gunther

Michael Daly & Ben Segal-Daly in memory of Martha Segal by Fern Goldman & Brian Byerley

Jane Ehrenworth in memory of Barbara Mirsky by Marion Silver & Alan Brass

Cory Felher in memory of Miriam Felberbaum by Loma Benbaum

Paul Finn in memory of your mother Doris Finn by Marcia & Barry Cantor

The family of the late Jayne Fleming by Ottawa Messianic Fellowship

Dr. Vivien Frenkel in memory of Sara Frenkel by Nina Jason & Brian Byerley

Roz Gershon in memory of Sam Gershon by Nina Jason & Brian Byerley, by Murray & Bryna Cohen, by David & Rochelle Greenberg

Phil Glazer in memory of your sister Irene Simboli by Susan & Charles Schwartzman

The family of the late Pearl Goldberg by Shier & Shirley Berman, by Rob & Theresa Carrick

Sorel Goldberg in memory of Pearl Goldberg by Rob & Theresa Carrick

Gary Gottlieb in memory of Frances Sarah Gottlieb by Beverley & Abe Feinstein

Joanne Greenberg in memory of your father by David & Rochelle Greenberg

Cybele Hamburg in memory of Denise Raymond by Janice & Marty Friedlich, by Marla & Danny Seller, by the Wex family, by Sam & Lisa Feldberg

Linda Hay in memory of Barrie Annis by Tom & Alannah Grossman

Anne Hennessy in memory of Sheila Griffin by Phyllis Gunther & Sheila Baslow

Chris Hopkins in memory of Alan Hopkins by Jay Flesher

The family of the late George Kadar by Raymond Goldman

Murray Kalserman in memory of Morton

Kaiserman by Elly & Al Bruner

The family of the late Lea Kalin by Ethel & David Malek, by Charlotte & Hyman Crystal, by Zelaine & Sol Shinder, by Brian & Rochelle Pearl, by the Yiddish class, by Peggy Kleinplatz

Margo Kardish in memory of Max Zelikovitz by Aviva & Chuck Freedman, by Marsha & Art Saper, by Marcia & Barry Cantor, by Tom & Alannah Grossman, by Reisa & Allan Glens

Cynthia Katz in memory of your father by Leon, Ruth & Floralove Katz

Donna Kemp in memory of William Kemp by Rose & Morrie Konick

Gabor Kertesz in memory of Panni by Judith & Edward Borts

Ken & Flora Klempner in memory of Jack Klempner by Edward & Judith Borts

Dr. Skip Kronick in memory of Irene Kronick by Marion Silver, Alan Brass & family

Sid Kushner in memory of Ruth Kushner by Ray & Arnold Tennenhouse

Shirley Lee in memory of Ron Lee by Rose & Morrie Konick

Rabbi & Mrs. David Levy in memory of your son Noam by Judith & Edward Borts

The family of the late Gerald Levitz by Marcia & Barry Cantor, by Murray & Bryna Cohen, by Jackie & Kevin Barwin, by Lori Loeb, by Tom & Alannah Grossman, by Nina Jason & Brian Byerley, by Brian & Rochelle Pearl

Margaret Macleod in memory of J. Peter Macleod by Anne & Ken Mozersky

Elisa & Rune Medhus in memory of Erik Rune Medhus by Skip & Liz Kronick

The family of the late Reva Mendelsohn by Susan & Charles Schwartzman

Jim Merson in memory of Mitzi Merson by Nina Jason & Brian Byerley

Geoffrey Pender in memory of Bernice Pender by Marilyn Arditti, by Nina Jason & Brian Byerley

Eve Pidgenn in memory of Anita Snider by Shelley, Lanny & Gerald Kamin

Norman Polowin in memory of Ruth Polowin by Tom & Alannah Grossman

Eric Rajzman in memory of Esther Rajzman by your friends at P.M.A. Realty Consulting

Penny Bar-Noy Roodman in memory of Harry Silver by Marion, Alan, Helen, Dirk & families

Arleen Roy in memory of Roger Roy by Tom & Alannah Grossman

Mary Rnsebrugh in memory of Keith Rosebrugh by Nina Jason & Brian Byerley

Ian Sadinsky in memory of Esther Sadinsky by Tom & Alannah Grossman

Clara Schwartz in memory of George Schwartz by Valerie & Gaby Terkel

Jennifer Segel in memory of Louise Labman by Helene Siegel

Elizabeth Slin in memory of Sir Harry by Norman & Myrna Barwin

The family of the late Stephen Simmering by Nina Jason & Brian Byerley

Greg Simpson in memory of your mother by

Yitzak Kalin

Audrey & Fiona Stewart in memory of Barbara Stewart by Fern, Arielle & Elie

Arnie Swedler in memory of Sarah Swedler by Jackie & Kevin Barwin, by Lori Loeb, by Tom & Alannah Grossman

Suzanne Taller in memory of David Taller by Tom & Alannah Grossman

Irving Taylor in memory of Ethel Taylor by David & Rochelle Greenberg

Michael Tock in memory of Jack Tock by Beverley & Abe Feinstein

John & Donna Verhey in memory of your daughter Kelly by Marcia & Barry Cantor

Lenny Yancovitch in memory of Harold Yancovitch by Cally & Sid Kardash

Wishing Good Health:
Gail Victor by Shelley & Morris Shachnow, by Marilyn Wasserman

Wishing Speedy Recovery to:
Pat King by Bert Palmer

Sylvia Monson by Bert & Kathryn Palmer

Gail Victor by Marcia & Barry Cantor, Joan & Russell Kronick, Mary & Murray Macy

Lawrence Weinstock by Susan & Charles Schwartzman

In Honour of:
Reg Angel on your 50th birthday by Beth Roodman

Marlene Asselin on your special birthday by Bert & Kathryn Palmer

Allan Baker in recognition of your dedication to the Jewish Community by Barbara & David Slipacoff

Dr. Joanne Tannenbaum & Dr. Ari Cherun on the birth of your daughter Mara by Carol & Laurie Pascoe

Marlene Cherun on the birth of your granddaughter Mara by Carol & Laurie Pascoe

Claire Fogel with birthday wishes by Sally & Morton Taller

Drs. Aviva & Chuek Freedman in appreciation by David & Judith Kalin

Ruth Glicksman on your 80th birthday by Irv and Elaine Singer

Robert Gould with thanks and appreciation by Rochelle Greenberg

Shirley Greenberg with thanks and appreciation by David & Rochelle Greenberg

Erik Hansen on your 65th birthday by Barbara Greenberg & Barry Bokhaut

Laureen Harper with thanks and appreciation by David & Rochelle Greenberg

Hope Harris with appreciation by Jackie Sitwell

Leonard Jewett with thanks and appreciation by Gladys & John Greenberg

Margo Kardish on your special birthday by Reisa & Allan Glens

Myra & Sam Krane on your anniversary with love Josb & Jaclyn

Sandra & Jacle Levinsnn on your 50th an-

niversary by Marilyn & Will Newman

Dr. Alex Lightstone on your birthday by Leo & Aviva Lightstone

Laurie Pascoe on your 60th birthday by Linda & Warren Melamed, by Jane & Martio Gordon, by Maureen & Jeffrey Katz

Bernard Poulin with grateful appreciation by David & Rochelle Greenberg

Ketty & Morris Samel with best wishes on your move to Toronto by your Ottawa friends

Bessie Segal on your 60th birthday by Jackie, Lucian, Michael & Simon Sitwell

Cindy Sezik on your 80th birthday by Lisa & Fred Cogan & the clan

Eva & Harry Simkover on your anniversary by Irene & Bob Stein

Adam & Juline Taller on your marriage by Noreen Taller-Harris

Joel & Gaye Taller on your 30th anniversary by Beth Roodman

Morton Taller on your special birthday by Marilyn, Wendy, Lori & Doron, by Noreen Taller-Harris

Rhoda Weitzman on your special birthday by Eileen, Stuart, Josh & Amanda

Edith Ladao & Issie Widerman on your 40th anniversary by Esther Klein

Ken & Mindy Pilon-Wright with warm thoughts by Lori & John

Nrman Zagerman on your 80th birthday by Mary & Murray Macy

Mazal Tov To:
Margo & Alan Blostein on your new home by Margo, David, Aaron & Gail Kardish

Rabbi & Mrs. David Hayes on the Bar Mitzvah of your son Michael by Deborah & Harold Stocker

Harvey & Judi Nightingale on the safe arrival of your grandson Ryan Max Nightingale by Fred & Lisa Cogan

Jordan Melzer & Innle Chen on your marriage by Shirley Steinberg

Lauren Rapp on your Bat Mitzvah by Marla & Danny Seiler & girls

Maxine & Arthur Rahinovitch on the birth of your granddaughter Sydney Johanna by Susan & Charles Schwartzman

Franeen & Larry Retik on Julie & Daniel's engagement by Susan & Charles Schwartzman

Arlene Rosen on the birth of your granddaughter Dani Sage by Susan & Charles Schwartzman

Janet & Marty Shminkofsky on Jeremy & Lianne's wedding by Carol & Laurie Pascoe

Doris Silver on your birthday with love Fern, Arielle & Elie

Joel & Gaye Taller on Adam & Juline's marriage by Noreen Taller-Harris

Shirley Wasser on your special birthday by Susan & Charles Schwartzman

*Tree purchases are \$18
and are fully tax receiptable.*

JNF thanks you for your generous contribution. Please accept our apologies if we misspelled or omitted anyone's name or contribution.

The Obama administration and Israel

This is the first time that there seems to be a significant division among Jews in the United States as to how the State of Israel is being treated by the American administration. There is also a divergence of opinion between Israelis and Jews who support the White House's policies. While the policies of the Obama administration are not viewed as pro-Israel by many, one needs to reflect deeper on United States party politics and administrations' historic behaviours.

I can't help noticing that the Democrats and Republicans have changed places in their attitudes toward Israel. In its first 20 years of independence, Israel was perceived as weak and as an underdog by both parties. The Democrats, however, had a soft spot for underdogs, especially after the Second World War.

The turning point was Israel's success during the Yom Kippur War in 1973. The world saw the strength of Israel. It could defeat great Arab armies with similar equipment and much larger manpower in such a short time. Israel was no longer the underdog. The extraordinary victories in the Six Day War and the Yom Kippur War established Israel as a titan. Then-president Richard Nixon came to see Israel as a military powerhouse and useful ally, both appealing features in the Republican mindset.

The Jimmy Carter presidency was the start of Democratic infighting regarding Israel, some of it reflecting Carter's personal issues with Israel and its friends, such as Iran. The Carter administration's support for theocracy in Iran and Afghanistan was particularly devastating, not only for Israel, but as we now know, for its catastrophic impact on the world. In fact, one could draw a parallel between what happened then and what is happening now. We see similar policies being adopted by the Obama administration, partly due to exposure to some of the Carter era advisers and mentors such as Zbigniew Brzezinski.

As general trend, Democrats have cooled to Israel as Republicans have warmed up. As the right has deepened its alignment with Israel, the left has adopted the Palestinian Arab cause as a centrepiece of its worldview. A recent Gallup poll found that 66 per cent of American Jews identify as Democratic, while only 27 per cent see themselves as Republican.

Jews around the world, particularly Jewish Americans, are conflicted in their support for the president. No other religious group in America has given the president a 63 per cent approval rating. The depth of the personal confliction is becoming significant. Both in Canada and the U.S., we see the seeds of a change of allegiance, not only at the Jewish leadership level, but also in voter and party support. These developments have potentially profound implications for Democrats in the U.S. and for Liberals in Canada.

While other polls showed that American Jews voted overwhelmingly, at 78 per cent, for Obama in last year's presidential election, Jewish Democrats strongly side with the Israeli position and disagree with Obama on issues such as a Palestinian state, settlement construction and trading land for peace. A Rasmussen poll conducted in late-December 2008 found 62 per cent of Republicans backed Israel's action against Hamas in Gaza while only 31 per cent of Democrats did. Israeli opinion poll data about the president can be summed up more clearly: only four per cent of Jewish Israelis think Obama is pro-Israel.

I believe the president is fanning the flames of division amongst Jews by supporting and meeting with organizations such as J Street and Americans for Peace Now. Obama, after a year in office, has left us key indicators such as his Cairo speech, the two-state solution proposal, the engagement policy and the UN speech to examine. The question is: have Obama and his administration had an adverse impact on Is-



World Affairs

Oliver Javanpour

rael and on Jewish life globally? Undeniably, in my opinion!

The key lesson for Israel and Zionist Jews from these indicators is that Israel needs to drive and establish its own solutions. It is not only the Israeli government's job; it is every Jew's responsibility to be part of these solutions.

The past six months are a testament to Jewish collective power to influence decision-makers. Jewish advocacy, lobbying, blogging and activism were all in full swing in response to the president's Cairo speech, the U.S. administration's unilateralism about the settlements, the president's UN speech and back door negotiations with Hamas.

When Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his coalition government were feeling squeezed, under pressure, and left with very little choice, they found relief in the support of many Jewish communities all over the world. It worked. The U.S. administration has lessened the pressures and taken a step back to reflect.

It is always important to have a good relationship with a sitting president. But, every now and then, there will be an administration that is not pro-Israel and we must not tie our own future to the policies of one president. While we may wish that Obama would take a broad perspective, and a fair and balanced long-term view, we must not feel limited by the policies of one administration.



Westboro
Jewish
Montessori
Preschool



Registration is now open for the
Westboro Jewish Montessori Preschool
2010-2011

Located at 192 Switzer Ave, Ottawa
(one block south of Carling, off Kirkwood)

- Music
- Science and math
- Jewish holidays and customs
- Languages (English, French, Hebrew)
- Experienced teachers
- Hot and kosher lunches

Open to children ages 2 ½ - 5 years old

For more information, call Devora Caytak at 613.729.7712

www.jylofottawa.org

B.H.



Join us for an Open House on December 16, 2009, from 10:30 to 11:30 am

Summer camps offer a vast array of programs and services to youth

By Benita Baker

Ah – summer camp. The freedom, the friends, the activities, the fun. For many youngsters, September through May is nothing more than time spent counting down the days to camp. As a friend of mine says, “The only time my kids don’t talk about camp is when they are at camp.”

As parents, we are happy to oblige them because we recognize the learning and growing opportunities our children experience at camp, whether as campers or as staff.

Camp builds self-esteem, self-respect and confidence. Children learn sharing, caring, communication, responsibility, participation and leadership. Friendships are made that last a lifetime. Regardless of their age or the type of camp, just being away from home enables kids to develop a sense of autonomy and resourcefulness; not to mention, the health and fitness benefits. Instead of sitting in front of a computer or television, campers are outside playing sports, swimming or just running around.

Whether its day camp or sleep-away, sports or arts camp, religious-themed or secular, there is a vast array of camps to choose from to match a child’s needs and interests. Some are kosher, some are not. Some stress community service. Some are Zionist. Some are Jewish because that’s what most of the campers are, while others actively integrate Judaism into camp lifestyle and programming. All are fun.

The summer camps listed here cater to a



Day campers at Camp Gan Israel of Ottawa.

variety of age groups and interests.

Day Camps Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) Summer Camps

The philosophy of the SJCC Summer Camps is that “every child in the Jewish community deserves a summer of great friends, exploration, activity, excitement

and education.”

Children from as young as two and up to 14 can spend an action-packed half or full day filled with sports, music, arts and crafts, drama and swimming. The ever-popular Travelling Sports Camp features instruction in an array of sports, including soccer, archery, fencing and squash as well as daily afternoon adventure trips for ice skating,

windsurfing, horseback riding, wind surfing and go-karting. One-week specialty camps for ages seven to 14 include horseback riding, tennis, fitness, basketball, bike touring, girl power and Lego.

Before and after camp care is available. Swimming lessons are included. Subsidies are available that ensure all kids are able to experience SJCC Summer Camps.

tinyurl.com/sjcc-camps

Camp Gan Israel of Ottawa

Located at 192 Switzer Avenue in Ottawa, Camp Gan Israel of Ottawa (CGI) is part of Chabad’s network of Jewish day camps. With an outdoor pool, specially designed preschool playground, playing fields and air-conditioned bunks, CGI offers diverse activities to boys and girls up to age seven, and girls up to age 14.

Programs include storytelling, Israeli dancing, Hebrew songs, talent shows and crafts projects that incorporate Jewish themes. A different sport is introduced each week with instruction provided by physical education teachers. In addition to field trips for nature hikes, ice skating or to theme parks, the camp also hosts events for the whole family, including a picnic, a Shabbat dinner and a mock Jewish wedding.

cgottawa.org

Dovercourt Recreation Centre Day Camps

In its facility at 411 Dovercourt Avenue, the Dovercourt Recreation Association offers one of the largest selections of day camp programs in Ottawa. A variety of theme and specialty camps are offered weekly for ages three to 17, including happy tunes where preschoolers make their own instruments; magic lessons for ages five to 11; rock climbing and orienteering for ages five to nine; adventure camp for ages 10 to 13; and leadership training for ages 13 to 17.

Along with regular swimming at the centre’s indoor pool, or at Westboro Beach for older campers, Dovercourt also offers several science camps, specialty visual arts and sports camps, culinary camp, aquatics, girls-only camps, and three levels of band camp, including a one-week residential band camp.

Pre- and post-camp care is available for a fee. Special needs children are welcomed.

tinyurl.com/dovercourt-camp

Sleep-away Camps

Camp B’nai Brith Ottawa

Close to home, and to the hearts of generations of Ottawa children, the goal of Camp B’nai Brith Ottawa is “to offer a summer home away from home where children can learn about and take pride in their Jewish culture and heritage.”

(Continued on page 50)



Girls at Camp B’nai Brith Ottawa.

this summer

Give your child a summer of great friends,
exploration, activity, excitement, and education

@ the Soloway JCC

June 28 - August 27

Ages 3 - 14

Before and after care available



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Marcy, camp mother, at the beach with 2 campers



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Camps cater to wide range of ages and interests

(Continued from page 46)

For children aged seven to 16, the kosher, peanut-sensitive camp features an Olympic-sized pool, an indoor gymnasium, land sports, arts and crafts, music, boating and water activities; as well as the ever popular Grey Cup, Super Bowl, Colour War, dance shows and camp plays.

A two-week program is offered for first time campers as well as a weekend option for six- to nine-year-olds. Bursaries from the Campership Incentive Program are available for children who have never attended overnight camp.

cbbottawa.com

Camp Kadimah

Affiliated with Canadian Young Judea, Camp Kadimah's mission is to build a foundation of Jewish identity and a love of Israel. The camp slogan is "where friendship begins," and Kadimah claims that, for 66 years, friendship is what has brought campers from across Canada and the world all the way to its location on Lake William in Nova Scotia.

The camp boasts a small camper/staff ratio, a kosher kitchen, programming that fosters Jewish identity, scholarships for the needy and a keen commitment to community service. Kadimah's CITs have worked at a special needs camp, raised funds for a camp for Israeli children affected by terrorism and donated 1 per cent of their salaries to Cuban Jewry.

www.campkadimah.com

Camp George

An integral part of the Reform Jewish movement in Canada, for 10 years, Camp George has been providing campers from seven to 16 with opportunities to learn, play and develop their Jewish identity.

Situated on 200 acres in Algonquin Park, Camp George offers a state-of-the-art Ropes course, multi-day canoe and hiking trips, sailing, water skiing, mountain biking, tennis, martial arts, dance, drama, photography, creative writing, guitar lessons and caring for the camp's goats, sheep and llamas. The camp prides itself on how it informally weaves Jewish education into all aspects of programming, including Tikkun Olam projects.

george.urjcamps.org

Camp Ramah

Camp Ramah is not your typical sleep-away camp. Operating under the auspices of the Jewish Theological Society in Canada, the camp is "a Jewish educational institution in the setting of a summer camp."

Along with athletics, woodworking, art and water sports, campers learn Torah, davening and how to speak Hebrew. Located in Algonquin Park, for 50 years, the camp has focused on traditional observances, Jewish values and in being a place where "reciting a bracha when seeing a rainbow or before eating becomes a way of life."

Aimed at children in Grades 3 to 10, with shorter programs for children in Grade



Teens at Camp B'nai Brith Ottawa.

2, the camp also offers a two-week program for young adults, aged 12 to 21, with developmental disabilities.

camppramah.com

Camp Northland-B'nai Brith

Camp Northland-B'nai Brith (NBB) is big in many ways. Located on 750 acres in the Haliburton Highlands, the camp can accommodate 550 campers aged seven to 15 for three- or four-week sessions. Taking full advantage of its pristine setting, NBB offers a broad range of outdoor activities, including mountain biking, ropes and wall climbing, archery, boating, water sports and overnight canoe and kayak trips.

In addition to arts & crafts and drama, NBB operates its own radio station for which all cabins prepare programming. The kosher, nut-free camp incorporates Judaism as an integral part of camp culture. Subsidies are available for eligible applicants.

campnbb.com

Camp B'nai Brith (Montreal)

Jewish identity is at the forefront of Camp B'nai Brith, located in the Laurentian Mountains, north of Montreal. In addition to the time-honoured arts, sports and waterfront activities, add horseback riding, wrestling, rollerblading and an emphasis on Israeli/Jewish programming.

Jewish religious and cultural values are a "subtle, intrinsic part" of camp life. Several programs are offered that take teenage campers to Israel. The camp hosts Israeli children who have lost a parent to war or terrorism and welcomes a group of Israeli

young adults who serve as staff members.

The peanut and nut-aware kosher camp is geared to ages eight to 14, with a special needs program for ambulatory children from eight to 16. Fifteen-year-old Pioneers live in tents.

cbbmtl.org

Harry Bronfman Y Country Camp

A branch of the Montreal JCC (YMYWHA), the Harry Bronfman Y Country Camp strives "to enrich our children's athletic, cultural and social skills, while encouraging the expression of our Jewish identity as a central bonding force."

Younger campers live in their own unit, each having its own head and rec hall. Senior campers live in platform tent villages and undertake multi-day hiking and canoeing trips. Weekly excursions for Junior and Senior CITs include white water rafting, trips to Boston, as well as visits to the Shriners Hospital for Children and the Maimonides Geriatric Centre.

Located near Mt. Tremblant, the camp features a creative arts centre, an activity centre and a heated pool. Shabbat-related activities, including Saturday morning Tefilah services and Havdalah on the beach, are a highlight.

ycountrycamp.com

Camp Walden

Situated on 750 acres and two lakes in Bancroft, Ontario, Camp Walden is all about creating friendships and making memories. The camp philosophy is simple, "Make plans to make memories."

While many camps fill their brochures

with statements about healthy lifestyle, building confidence and respect for nature, the 40-year-old Camp Walden takes these as a given. Instead, it focuses on the main thing that campers take away from their summer – lasting friendships.

Offering the customary array of indoor and outdoor activities, the camp prides itself on its arts/music/theatre programs, which include the biggest and best equipped recreational ceramics studios in the Canada as well as a theatre building with a professional sound and lighting systems and a 60-foot wide, elevated stage.

campwalden.ca

Pripstein's Camp Mishmar

The heart of Pripstein's approach to summer camp is family, fitness, friendship and facilities. From the focus on the variety and abundance of food – a kosher meal option is available – to the emphasis on athletics and state-of-the-art facilities, Pripstein's aims to please. Founded 70 years ago, the camp is located on 200 acres in the Laurentians and borders on three lakes, one of which prohibits motor boats.

The camp has recently opened an indoor ice arena, unique to North American summer camps, which is housed in a 19,000 square-foot, all-weather, domed building along with a rock-climbing centre and an in-line skate park. Other indoor facilities include a heated pool, a theatre featuring professional sound and lighting, and a gymnasium with electronic scoreboard and tennis practice wall.

mishmar.ca



Camp B'nai Brith of Montreal

Group 1: Friday, June 25 - Monday, July 19

Starter Camp: Friday, June 25 - Friday, July 9

Group 2: Thursday, July 22 - Sunday, August 15

Starter Camp: Thursday, July 22 - Thursday, August 5

Boys and Girls Resident Camp Age 8 - 16

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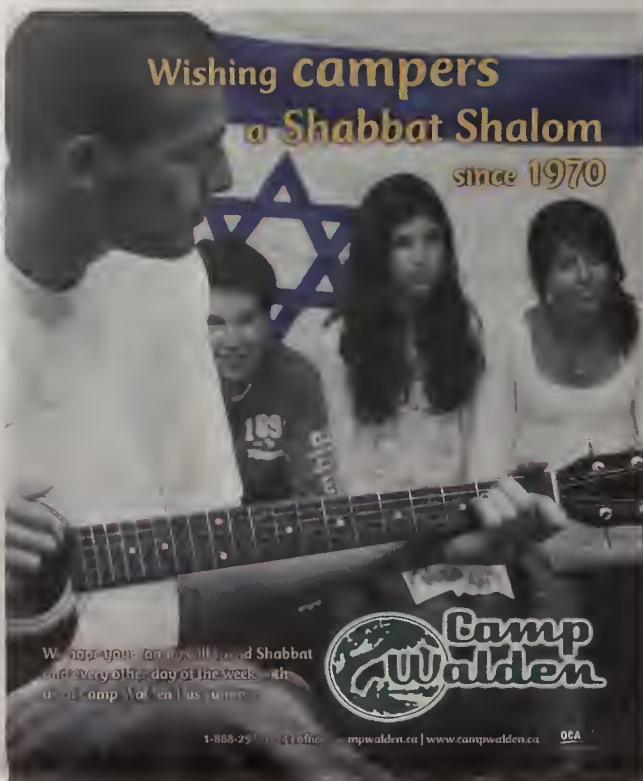


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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL CAMP PROGRAMS CONTACT:

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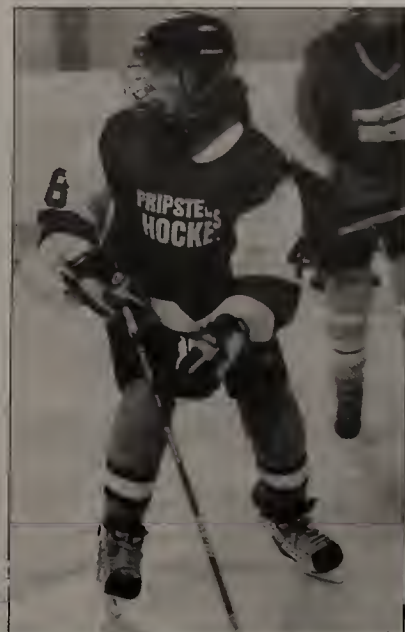
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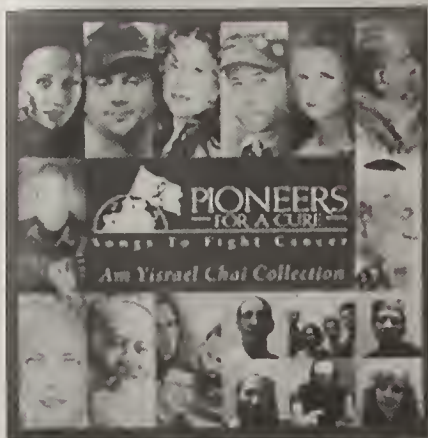
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Israeli pioneer songs raise funds for cancer charities



Various Artists
Pioneers for a Cure – Songs to Fight Cancer:
The Am Yisrael Chai Collection
Joodayoh
pioneersforcure.org

When pre-state Israel was being settled by pioneers drawn to the land from various parts of the Diaspora, a body of songs celebrating the people, the land and the pioneering spirit were commissioned by the Jewish National Fund from a variety of Jewish composers and poets. These songs were the beginning of a distinctively Israeli folk music.

Many decades later, Jewish singers and bands, representing many different genres of music, have recorded modern versions of those pioneering songs as a fundraising project for a variety of cancer organizations in Israel, North America and the U.K. The songs are all available as individual downloads from pioneersforcure.org, a website that includes extensive information about the project, about each of the songs, the

artists who have recorded them, and about the various cancer charities benefitting from each of the songs. The artists themselves chose the specific cancer charity being funded by their individual tracks.

The website includes audio samples of all the available tracks and YouTube promos for many of them. Among the tracks I particularly like are "Tapuach Zahav" by Nesbama Carlebach; a medley of "Lu Hayiti Tsipor Kanaf" and "Sb'Chav Beni," sung beautifully by Lorin Sklamberg; "V'u-lai," by Israeli singer and excellent flamenco-style guitarist David Broza; and a Middle Eastern-sounding interpretation of "Hinei Acha'la Bachalili" by Pbaraob's Daughter."

Rabbi Greg Wall, an important figure in the new Jewish music scene in New York, produced the tracks and plays saxophone on many of them, including an avant-garde jazz version of "Holem Tza'adi," by Hasidic New Wave, the band he co-leads with trumpeter Frank London of the Klezmatics.

Mama Doni
Chanukah Fever:
18 Maccabees for the whole family!
Mama Doni Productions
mamadoni.com

The latest release from the vivacious Mama Doni – Doni Zasloff Thomas – is full of songs that celebrate contemporary Chanukah customs. From playing dreidel, to eating latkes and sufganiot, lighting the menorah and passing out Chanukah gelt, Mama Doni gets it all in, using styles ranging from disco to hip hop and country. She also injects a keen sense of humour and a lot of energy into her songs.

While there is only a passing reference to the Maccabees and the actual Chanukah legend, there is an ode to Hanukkah Harry, the *Saturday Night Live* skit character created by Jon Lovitz. It's the kind of CD you might want to have on hand to



Beyond the Pale CD launch

The Ottawa-area launch for *Postcards*, the latest album by Beyond the Pale, one of Canada's finest klezmer bands, takes place December 11 at the Black Sheep Inn in Wakefield, Quebec.

For more information, visit theblacksheepinn.com or call 1-888-222-6608 for tickets.

My review of *Postcards* was published in the September 7 issue of the *Bulletin*.

– Michael Regenstreif
(Photo: Asli Altin)



Music



Michael Regenstreif

amuse young kids at Chanukah time.

Hadar Manor
Crossing London
Sella Music
hadar.co.uk

Yael Naïm, the Paris-based Israeli singer-songwriter, became a pop sensation last year when one of her songs was picked up for a computer commercial. I was reminded of Naïm listening to the Hadar Manor, another young Israeli singer-songwriter, now achieving success in Europe. Singing mostly in English, with one song in Hebrew, Manor shares similar musical sensibilities with Naïm as she blends folk, jazz and electronica influences into appealing pop songs about living an artist's life in London.

Manor first found fame after winning a newspaper-sponsored contest to find the city's best busker, an occupation she describes in the song, "Queen of the Underground." She's well worth checking out, if you enjoy quirky, intelligent pop music, and has several videos, including "Queen of the Underground," up on YouTube.

Eyal Maoz's Edom
Hope and Destruction
Tzadik
eyalmaozmusic.com

Eyal Maoz's Edom is just one of several bands fronted by the Eyal Maoz, an Israeli guitarist now based in New York City. *Hope and Destruction*, the second release by Edom is an intense, imaginative set of jazz-rock fusion instrumentals, sometimes with discernable Jewish and Middle Eastern motifs, that showcase the musical communication between Maoz and collaborators Brian Marsella on keyboards, Sharir Ezra Blumenkranz on bass and drummer Yuval Lion. Some of these often-aggressive tunes are not for the faint-of-heart afraid to crank the volume on their stereos.

Guy Mendilow Band
Skyland
Earthen Groove
guymendilow.com

Guy Mendilow is an Israeli-born musician who has lived in Israel, South Africa, Brazil and, now, the United States, whose world music ensemble draws on folkloric and jazz traditions from many parts of the world. One instrumental tune is steeped in the Cajun traditions of Louisiana, others in Asian and South American traditions. There are peace songs sung in Hebrew and a Turkish Arabic dialect and several traditional Sephardic songs in Ladino. A highlight is the beautiful "Rain, Rain, Beautiful Rain," written by South African choral legend Joseph Shabalala, the leader of Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

Mendilow plays a variety of instruments, including guitar and berimbau, and is complemented by a group of singers and musicians who effectively follow his musical lead into different genres of world music.



Experiences and emotions of widowhood examined in Anne Roiphe's memoir

Epilogue: A Memoir
By Anne Roiphe
Harper 2008
Hardcover
224 pages

Book Review

Mira Sucharov

The themes of love gained and lost are well trodden in memoir. But widowhood is still shrouded in privacy. Celebrated American Jewish author Anne Roiphe shares this intimate experience with us in *Epilogue: A Memoir*, as she copes with the death of her 81-year-old husband. I felt privileged to be invited into Roiphe's personal world, pained though it is. I also empathized with her acknowledgment that writing about her life inevitably shapes her experiences, and that the writing "provides a floor" under her, seeming to save her. I wondered silently whether such a memoir would be salt or salve for those experiencing similar losses – whether the realism would affirm or upset. Perhaps both.

The book demystifies the private lives and longings of the aging. Roiphe misses sex. She shares her fear of hurdening her adult children. About a dinner at her stepdaughter's she writes, "I am welcome but irrelevant to the evening." A delicately played scene is one in which she attends another family meal, watching, observing, analyzing the dynamics between her daughters, and the tone of social interaction between her sons-in-law. She details the intricacies of her friendships – some nourishing, others hurtful – as a single woman. She recounts evenings spent in front of the television with cardboard-tasting takeout, nights wending her way through the subways of New York, and days spent thinking about how to dispose of her husband's ties.

Roiphe peppers the narrative with stories of attempted dat-

ing, episodes that function as plot, anemic though it is, with her romantic life filled with ambivalence. Her daughters have placed a personal ad on her behalf in the *New York Review of Books*, and later, on *match.com*. Though she receives many inquiries, the actual encounters tend to be brief and uninspiring. She manages to generate excitement from the idea of one potential suitor – "Albany," she calls him – whose reactionary politics in ranting e-mails ultimately prove too much for her sensibilities.

Her friends tell her she should buy new clothes and consider dying her hair. I, of course, turned to the jacket photo, attempting to read a younger woman into her totally unaffected 70-something appearance. A Google search showed me images of a younger Anne Roiphe, one who appeared jaunty and arresting next to her older and sadder self. With the sizable oeuvre she has produced over four decades of writing, surely many readers will recall her in her prime. And Albany holds her in his thrall: by sending a photo of his younger self. "How do our inner selves map to our outer ones?" Roiphe seems to be asking. When, after "getting work done," as she hears her friends describe it, do you stop being recognizable?

Life cycle rites and religion go hand in hand, of course; some would even argue that religion was created to cope with the vicissitudes of birth, romantic union and death. Roiphe

skillfully weaves elements of Judaism into the narrative, though always with a doubtful, questioning gaze. Why did she decide to go through with her husband's unveiling? she asks. The event was motivated by neither "custom or religious law," she adds.

I puzzled over this, wondering how, if not religiously motivated – easy enough to understand in this secular age – does custom not hold the explanatory burden? What else is there? Aesthetics? Style? Social pressure? Or perhaps it is unconscious custom, a possibility she doesn't explore despite her frequent psychoanalytic references (her husband, Herman Roiphe, was a respected New York psychoanalyst).

But, she describes the mourner's Kaddish as "comforting" because "it is ancient, it links us together in time," though ultimately she concludes that the funeral rites are performed for the benefit of the living, not for the deceased. "I don't fool myself. The ceremony that accompanied the body down its hole was not for H. It and the hill were for me."

Epilogue is written in the present tense. It is as if Roiphe is declaring that the only past that matters to her is the one which her husband inhabited. An epilogue – even one bound and made permanent – is a story that the reader can consider fleetingly without it being consigned to the weightiness of history.

Neither is Roiphe sure how much future she wants to claim for herself. She reveals thoughts of suicide, and files away plans for a possible self-inflicted demise so that she "can avoid the worst" of nursing homes and dependence.

Despite these dark and difficult moments, ultimately, the book attempts to be hopeful. Happy is not the widow who once loved. But comfort and peace, however cosmic or quotidian, can help us move through life, even toward its inevitable end.

Clock in some Torah time

Nov 15, 2009 - May 5, 2010 We're marking JET's 18th anniversary, by asking our community to play the role of a student and join us in accumulating 18,000 hours of Jewish Learning. *Let's get rolling...*

"God called out to Adam and said, 'Where are you?'" (Genesis 3:9)

Scene 1:
Adam & Eve



Wanting to know myself is the sign of a positive attitude. I'm going to receive JET's 18 Tools for Highly Effective Jewish Living via email once a week for a positive outlook.

Motivational Speaker

It means my kids can admit to anything, without feeling ashamed. I'm going to brush up on my parenting skills at Rochel's Monday morning class.

Jewish Mother



Only when Adam was prepared to be examined by his creator could the healing begin. I'll study Maimonides' work with my colleague.

Doctor



This question feels like a euphemism for, are you aware that you are still coexisting with other living things, like the planet? Maybe aish.com has published an article on Torah and environment.

Environmentalist

JET'S
18
Anniversary

There are many ways to clock in your Torah time.

Come be part of an interesting scene.
We want to hear **your** take.

There's something in it for you.

To Clock In Some Torah Time, visit www.jetottawa.com or contact jet@jetottawa.com or call 613-798-9818 x247

'I felt like I was in one of those credit card commercials'

My middle child, Jenna, is taking a gap year before she begins university next fall. She is in Israel participating in Kivunim, an amazing program that provides a unique opportunity for international travel and study.

The kids are based in Jerusalem and will take international field trips every five or six weeks to Greece, Bulgaria, Morocco, Spain, Turkey, Germany, Czech Republic and India. The focus is on understanding the history and contemporary life of international Jewish communities. The program's aim is to provide an appreciation and understanding of the broader multicultural world in which we live.

I miss her very much! A few weeks ago, I decided to send her a care package. I baked her some cookies. I decided to make my grandmother's Bubbe Cookies because they are hard like a rock and keep forever. I bought a few new books and some fun makeup from Sephora.

I packaged it all up and headed to the UPS store. They weighed and measured the box and I filled in a declaration of contents. I immediately bonded with the clerk helping me. Her name was Ellie. She was a mom with kids away at school too. She thought it was so sweet that I was sending this package.

Ellie consulted her international book and began punching things into her computer. After several minutes she looked up, smiled at me and said, "The cost of sending this box will be \$351.79."

I wasn't sure I heard her correctly, so I asked her to repeat it. The price didn't come down. I felt like I was in one of those credit card commercials.

Books: \$45 dollars. Nail polish: \$12. Mascara: \$8. Cookies: \$10. Love for your daughter: priceless. For everything else, there's MasterCard.

So I did what any Jewish mother would do and whipped out my MasterCard swearing this would be the only care package she will get all year.

Several days later, I got a call from Jenna saying that UPS called her and asked her to come to the airport in Tel Aviv to pick up her parcel. She explained that she was a student and could not travel from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. So they told her that she had to fill out a 'declaration of personal import' and pay a fee of 100 shekels (about \$25).



Made with Love

Cindy Feingold

I was stunned. I told her not to worry and I immediately called UPS Canada.

The told me they were unable to help me and I had to call UPS in Israel. There is no toll-free number for that.

Over the next few days, I made friends with four different UPS agents, all of them lovely people, raised well by their mothers. They felt my pain and frustration and tried their best to help me.

I had a lengthy long distance conversation with Danielle who explained to me that any time you send food into Israel an import form must be completed. The extra fee was to pay an authorized service contractor for UPS. The parcel is only handled by UPS until it reaches the airport in Israel. Then a service contractor takes over.

I got her to e-mail me the import form, filled it out and faxed it back. I basically had to swear up and down that this package did not contain drugs, weapons, animal products or anything illegal.

I did not hear anything for two days, so I called again. This time, I spoke with Ida who informed me that the package was still being detained by the Ministry of Health, but it should be released later in the day. When I told this to my sister, she said they probably thought the cookies were weapons because they are so hard you could stone people with them!

I asked Ida if I could pay the additional fee over the phone with a credit card.

"Of course," she said, "as long as it was an Israeli credit card."

I explained that I only had a Canadian credit card. "Sorry," she said, in that case I would have to wire money to their bank account to cover the fees. She gave me another phone number and told me I would have to speak to Alon to get all the banking details. This was getting way too complex.

The next day, Shiran, from UPS Israel, called to say my package had been released. Since Jenna was in classes all day, she could not be there to receive the package and pay the fee, so she arranged to leave money at the front desk of her residence. Finally, the package was delivered, 12 days after I sent it.

Jenna e-mailed to thank me and tell me how much she appreciated it and loved and missed me. Priceless!

If you have loved ones far away, there is no better way to show them that you love them than by sending cookies. If they are in Israel, forget it! It's not worth the hassle. For all other destinations, here is a recipe for gingerbread cookies, which keep very well for weeks.

Thick and Chewy Gingerbread Cookies

This recipe comes from *Cook's Illustrated*. It makes about 18 large or 30 small gingerbread cookies.

These would be wonderful for Chanukah, cut with menorah or dreidel cookie cutters.

3 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
3/4 cup firmly packed dark brown sugar
3/4 teaspoon baking soda
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves (totally optional – I leave it out as I hate cloves)
1/2 teaspoon salt
12 tablespoons (1 1/2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened but still cool, cut into 12 pieces
3/4 cup molasses
2 tablespoons milk

In a food processor, process the flour, brown sugar, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, cloves and salt until combined, about 10 seconds.

Scatter the butter pieces over the flour mixture and process until the mixture is sandy and resembles very fine meal, about 15 seconds.

With the machine running, gradually add the molasses and milk. Process until the dough is evenly moistened and forms a soft mass, about 10 seconds.

Scrape dough out onto a work surface and divide it half.

Working with one piece at a time, roll the dough, 1/4 inch thick, between two sheets of parchment paper. Leaving the dough sandwiched between the parchment layers, stack on a baking sheet and freeze until firm, 15-20 minutes.

Adjust the oven racks to the upper and lower middle positions and heat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

Remove one dough sheet from the freezer; place on work surface. Peel off top parchment sheet and gently lay it back in place. Flip the dough over; peel off and discard second parchment layer.

Cut the dough using cookie cutters of your choice. Transfer shapes to prepared baking sheets, using a wide metal spatula, spacing them 3/4 inches apart. Set scraps aside. Repeat with remaining dough until baking sheets are full.

Bake the cookies for 8 to 11 minutes, until they are set in the centres and the dough barely retains an imprint when touched very gently with a fingertip.

The baking sheets should be rotated from front to back and switching positions top to bottom, halfway through the baking time. Do not over-bake.

Cool cookies on the sheets for two minutes, then remove the cookies with a wide metal spatula to a wire rack to cool completely.

Gather the scraps; repeat rolling, cutting and baking.

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So many ways to celebrate Chanukah

For more than 2,000 years, Jews have told the same Chanukah story and celebrated the same two miracles.

Miracle one: under the leadership of Judah Maccabee, a small band of Jewish fighters defeated the powerful and far more numerous Syrian-Greek armies to regain their religious freedom.

Miracle two: during the rededication of the Temple and the lighting of its menorah, a small vial of pure olive oil burned for eight days and eight nights until new oil could be made. Therefore, on Chanukah, Jews around the world light candles or oil lamps for eight nights and share holiday meals.

Beyond those commonalities, however, are myriad different Chanukah customs, traditions and foods that are unique to specific Jewish communities. Who knew there were so many ways to celebrate Chanukah? Reading about them is entertaining, educational, inspiring and thought provoking.

Hanukkah Around the World

By Tami Lehman-Wilzig
Illustrations by Vicki Wehrman
Kar-Ben Publishing 2009
48 pages. Ages 8-11.

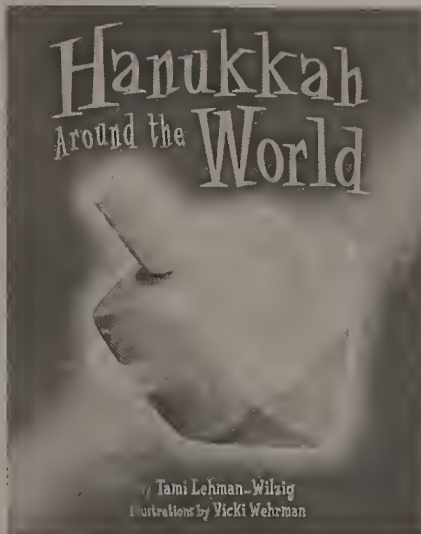
Like her earlier book, *Passover Around the World*, Tami Lehman-Wilzig's *Hanukkah Around the World* is a combination of facts and storytelling.

The book begins with an informative introduction to the holiday and the dreidel game, including English alliterations for its Hebrew letters Nun, Gimel, Hey and Shin (in Israel, Nun, Gimel, Hey and Peh). Readers then travel, first, to eight cities and countries via a brief chapter on each one's Chanukah celebrations, then, to 10 more places via a paragraph on each of them.

The chapters focus on such diverse cities and countries as Modi'in in Israel; New York City; Istanbul, Turkey; Samarkand, Uzbekistan; Turin, Italy; Sydney, Australia; Warsaw, Poland; and Nabeul, Tunisia.

Each chapter contains a map of the location, a contemporary story portraying its unique customs and traditions, an insert with a few facts about the history and current status of its Jewish community, and the recipe for its special Chanukah food.

I found the customs and traditions featured in three of the stories especially inspiring: the Chanukah torch relay



By Tami Lehman-Wilzig
Illustrated by Vicki Wehrman

from the Maccabee graves in Modi'in to Jerusalem which began three years before Israel became a state; the candle connecting Tisha B'Av and Chanukah featured in the chapter on Turin; and the links between Chanukah, Rosh Chodesh Tevet and honouring the biblical heroine, Judith, described in the chapter on Nabeul.

As for food, no surprise that, except for the recipes from Uzbekistan and Australia, oil is a prime ingredient in both Ashkenazic and Sephardic cooking. Perhaps we might be inspired to add sufganiot (jelly-filled doughnuts), burmelos (fried fritters), jarkoff (a chicken stew), precipizi (fried cookies made with cherry Heering brandy), deba cookies or even a 'blizzard' to our Chanukah menus.

Colourful illustrations and a glossary blend well with the entertainment and learning that await readers of *Hanukkah Around the World*. Who knew? Maybe, like the girls in Samarkand, we'll put on bells and add folk dancing to our celebrations, too.



Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

Menorah Under the Sea

By Esther Susan Heller
Kar-Ben Publishing 2009
32 pages. Ages 5-9.

How can a Jewish marine biologist/ecologist celebrate Chanukah when he's researching sea urchins in the constantly daylight summer that's December at McMurdo Station, Antarctica?

That question presumably lies at the heart of *Menorah Under the Sea*. It is, of course, a phony question.

We know that the scientist, Dr. David W. Ginsburg, packed a travelling menorah and candles. He'll just light them, which is what he and the other Jewish scientists at the station do at the end of the book.


The real question is what else does this diving scientist do to celebrate Chanukah?

The answer makes for an interesting, if somewhat superficial, look at his work, adventures and creativity. Like a master craftsman, Ginsburg uses the materials at hand – sea urchins and sea stars – to make his menorah under the sea.

What is truly remarkable about *Menorah Under the Sea* are its images of Antarctica and, especially, of the life forms in the coldest waters on this globe. The pictures are truly mesmerizing.

Around the world and under the sea, Chanukah is clearly celebrated anywhere and everywhere Jews wander, especially in your home and mine. Or, as Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shulami told my husband when he heard we were moving to Prince Edward Island years ago, "Jews don't fall off the world. They keep on observing and celebrating."

From my family to yours, Chag Sameach! May your celebration of religious freedom be wondrous!




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Government communications takes a lot of effort

Sometimes, I'm amazed at the way our government communicates with us.

You see, I have a secret.

I used to work for the government and I recall how adamant the upper levels of our department were that we give prompt and efficient replies and honest and forthcoming information on all our programs.

Of course, we could not tell anyone of impending changes to the program or of any decisions. Such announcements were the prerogative of the minister. Sometimes, we didn't even know what those were even after someone in the minister's office leaked them to the press.

And, I am afraid, we were not allowed to admit mistakes unless such admissions were approved up and down the line through several levels.

As a middle manager, I was constantly reassured that this was meant to empower me. Empowering meant that I would be the one who would speak for my program, but only after the briefing notes had been prepared, the communications people had given their advice and made suggested changes, and everyone up to the deputy minister had signed off on the message. But, I was told, I had total control over what I said to the press, within those bounds.

I recall very well how I was prepared for a 15-minute interview with a community newspaper by first being sent on a two-day course, and then having my notes reviewed and approved by all concerned over a period of a few short days. There was grave concern that I not fail to deliver the exact message, exactly.

It is no wonder public servants put in hours and hours of unpaid overtime as this communications business certainly



Humour me, please

Rubin Friedman

took a lot of concentrated and extended effort. Apparently, I needed all the help I could get, as you can tell from my awkwardness with the language.

Sometimes, the attention to detail and procedure have the unfortunate effect of confusing people. I have a friend who ended up in an endless loop bouncing between a supervisor who said she would be mailed her final cheque and a pay clerk who encouraged her to come pick it up. Every time she came in, she was told the cheque was in process and to contact the clerk. In fact, she was not admitted to the building as she no longer worked there. Then she would go home and contact the clerk who told her to come and pick it up.

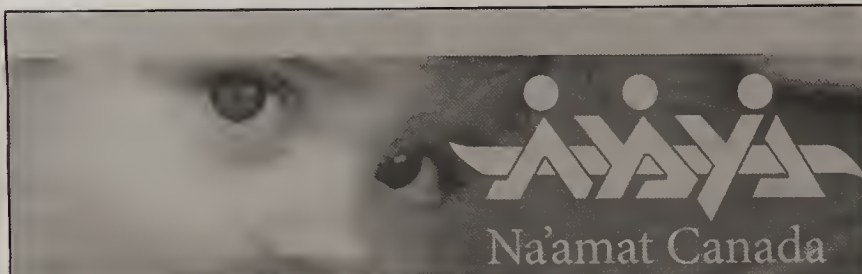
It took only a few iterations of this routine before she realized she was on a merry-go-round. On a Friday, after a brief delay of three weeks, she finally received her cheque. Her eviction notice still hot off the press, she was able to fix things with her landlord.

And how about that swine flu!

I had so much information I was overloaded. The chance of getting the flu was in one in 3,000, but the chance of dying if I got it was one in three million. On the other hand, the chance of my dying if I took the flu shot was one in three million, too. I am glad the decision was up to me because it gave me a chance to use my old electronic calculator.

Of course, only those in the designated groups were to be vaccinated – except if you just showed up or were a member of the Calgary Flames. I am glad that was clear!

So, take pity on the poor public servants who try to communicate and be helpful, while not telling you anything that could possibly affect reality. They, like us, are just waiting for the Messiah to come and tell us all what's what.



Na'amat Canada

On the menorah, the Shamash candle plays the role of the leader, spreading flame from wick to wick.

This Chanukah, we ask that you be our Shamash. We ask you to share your flame, your passion and devotion to Israel. We ask that you donate through Na'amat Canada.

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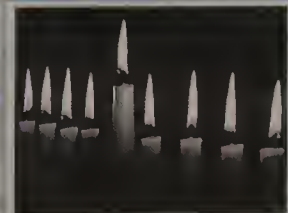
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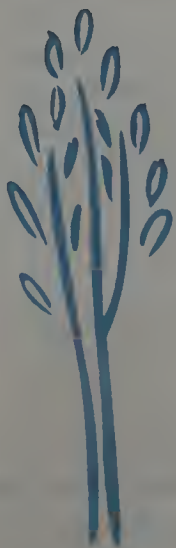


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may the message
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Hy Calof by the Hill family.
Morton Kaiserman by the Hill family.
Esther Sadinsky by the Hill family.

HY AND PAULINE HOCHBERG ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Lillian Kahan by Pauline and Brian Hochberg.

DOROTHY AND HY HYMES ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Dr. Jeffrey Dover on becoming President of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

JEREMY KANTER MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Rabbi and Mrs. Reuben Bulka on the marriage of Rachel and Sarel by Evelyn and Lou Eisenberg.
Lynda and Steven Latner on the marriage of Yael to Dan Kanter by Evelyn and Lou Eisenberg.

MAX AND DORA KARP KAPINSKY MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Esther Sadinsky by Arthur Max and Ruth Karp.

BENJAMIN AND LILLIAN KATZ MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Gerry Levitz by Jeff and Maureen Katz.
Max Zelikovitz by Jeff and Maureen Katz.
Sam Gershon by Jeff and Maureen Katz.

LIBBY AND STAN KATZ FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Marry and Tanya Abrams on their daughter's wedding by Libby and Stan Katz.

KERSHMAN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

Get well wishes to:
Gail Victor by Sylvia Kershman.
Chuck Polowin by Sylvia Kershman.
Irving Taylor by Sylvia Kershman.
Marjorie Goldmaker by Sylvia Kershman.
Sylvia Monson by Sylvia Kershman.
Shari Silber by Sylvia Kershman.
In observance of the Yahrzeit of:
Harry Kershman, a beloved husband by Sylvia Kershman.
Goldie Reva Applebaum, a dear sister by Sylvia Kershman.
In memory of:
Joan Naimark by Sylvia Kershman.
Gordon Allen by Sylvia Kershman.
Sally Schneider by Sylvia Kershman.
Gerry Levitz by Sylvia Kershman.
Lea Kalin by Sylvia Kershman.

Ethel Taylor by Sylvia Kershman.
Ruth Polowin by Sylvia Kershman.
Max Zelikovitz by Sylvia Kershman.
Peter Kreisman by Sylvia Kershman.
Celia Bookman by Sylvia Kershman.
Esther Sadinsky by Sylvia Kershman.

Mazel Tov to:
Barry Bregman on the engagement of Avi by Sylvia Kershman.

SYD, ETHEL, LINDA AND STEVEN KERZNER AND FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Lillian Kahan by Mitchell Bellman and Nicola Hamer.

ARTHUR AND SARAH KIMMEL MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Dan and Marilyn Kimmel.
Esther Sadinsky by Dan and Marilyn Kimmel; and by Roz and Arnie Kimmel.
Condolences to:
Jackie Shulman on the loss of her mother by Roz and Arnie Kimmel.

SUSAN AND DAVID KRIGER ENDOWMENT FUND

Condolences to:
Maria Ain on the loss of her mother by Susan and David Kriger.

ISSIE AND EDITH LANDAU ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Edie Landau on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter Meera by Jeff and Maureen Katz.
Condolences to:
Jeff Weiss on the loss of his brother by Edie Landau, Jerrold and Tzippy Landau.
In memory of:
Esther Sadinsky by Edie Landau.

GOLDMAN/LANDAU FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Faye Goldman and Michael Landau.
Hy Calof by Faye Goldman and Michael Landau.
Gerry Levitz by Faye Goldman and Michael Landau.

LILY AND MORRIS LANG ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Morris Lang by Larisa Akhmedova and Brian Fitzgibbon.

HARRY AND ZENA LEIKIN ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Barbara Farber on receiving an Honorary Degree from Algonquin College for her outstanding services to the college and community by Libby and Stan Katz; and by Joany and Andy Katz.

BERNIE AND IDA LESH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Doris Finn by Charlotte Felsky and Morty Handler; and by Ida Lesh.

GEORGE LESH MIRACLE FUND

In memory of:
Doris Finn by George Lesh.

NORMAN AND ISABEL LESH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Norman and Isabel Lesh.
Mazel Tov to:
Claire and Irving Bercovitch on the upcoming Bat Mitzvah by Norman and Isabel Lesh.

SANDRA AND JACIE LEVINSON ENDOWMENT FUND

R'fush Sh'lemah to:
Irving Taylor by Sandra and Jacie Levinson.
Gail Victor by Sandra and Jacie Levinson.
In memory of:
Gerry Levitz by Sandra and Jacie Levinson.
Sam Gershon by Sandra and Jacie Levinson.
Hy Calof by Sandra and Jacie Levinson.

RUTH AND RON LEVITAN ENDOWMENT FUND

In appreciation to:
Ruth Levitan by AJA50+.
In memory of:
Doris Finn by Ruth and Ron Levitan.

ERNEST AND IDA LEVITZ MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Gerry Levitz by Sharon and Dr. Simon Davidson; by Dorothy Nadolny; by Aviva and Cbuck Freedman; by Leonard Levine; by Jack and Wendy Klein; by the Canadian Press; by Peggy and Armin Dahms; by Sheldon and Ramona Sullivan; by Donald and Asaly Meakin; by Robert McNamara and Catherine Clysde; by Howard and Clare Weiner; by Sharon and Sheldon Rubin; by Gladys and John Greenberg; by Mark Levitz; by Thomas Swindells; by KPMG; by Sharon and Dr. Stanley Jacobson; by Betty and Joseph Feller, Ian Feller, Donna-Lee Kauffman and Connie-Gail Salomon; by Barbara Browne, Soren, Elana and Mira Haier; by Barry, Fem, Lauren and Rob Krugel; by Nicole and Walter Delpero; by Johanna Kruger; by Aaron and Melanie Kohn; by Ada Kazman; by Judy and John Mills; by Lisa, Nikki and Tess Fischer; by Richard and Lorraine Fage; by Carole and Norman Zagerman; by Bruce and Dina Granove; and by Doris and Steve Ramphos.

JOHN AND ESTELLE LIBERMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Gerry Achman by John and Estelle Liberman.
Hy Calof by John and Estelle Liberman.

Continued on page 62

In Appreciation

The family of MAX ZELIKOVITZ offer thanks and appreciation to all their family and friends who offered support during this difficult time. Your cards and donations were greatly appreciated.

Jess, Enid, Margo and families

In Appreciation

In appreciation to my family and friends for their cards, flowers and caring during my recent illness. I am deeply touched by everyone's caring and helpfulness.

Blanche Osterer

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JOSEPH AND EVELYN LIEFF ENDOWMENT FUND

Anniversary wishes to:
Sandra and Jaie Levinson by Joe and Evelyn Lieff.

ARNOLD AND ROSE LITHWICK FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Harold Fein by Yvonne and Harvey Lithwick and family.

SAMUEL AND LEEMA MAGIDSON ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Irene Swedlove by Leema Magidson.

CHUCK AND BONNIE MEROVITZ FAMILY FUND

Speedy recovery to:
Irving Taylor by Chuck and Bonnie Merovitz.

Mazel Tov to:
Marty and Terri Davis on the birth of their granddaughter Emily by Chuck and Bonnie Merovitz.
Marjorie and Michael Feldman on the birth of their grandson Micah Harris by Chuck and Bonnie Merovitz.

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Chuck and Bonnie Merovitz.
Barry Fishman by Chuck and Bonnie Merovitz.
James Evans by Chuck and Bonnie Merovitz.

RHODA AND JEFFREY MILLER FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Ooris Finn by Rhoda and Jeffrey Miller.

NORMAN AND ANNE MIRSKY MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Miriam Reich on the birth of her great-grandson by Millie and Steve Mirsky.

JACK AND HONEY MONSON ENDOWMENT FUND

Condolences to:
The Monson family on the loss of a beloved Aunt by Leslee, David, Adam, Corey and Joel Balsam.

DOROTHY AND HERBERT NADOLNY ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Oavid Slipacoff by Dorothy Nadolny.
Dundi Sachs by Dorothy Nadolny.

JEAN AND MAX NAEMARK ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Jean Naemark by Beatrice Toronto.

PINKAS AND YEHUDIT NEWMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Sam Gershon by Bill and Marilyn Newman.
Hy Calof by Bill and Marilyn Newman.

JACK AND MIRIAM PLEET ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Ooris Finn by Jack and Miriam Pleet.

PREHOGAN FAMILY FUND IN MEMORY OF AARON HARRY COHEN

Birthday wishes to:
Jack Prehogan by Yetta Cohen.

GERALD AND MARY-BELLE PULVERMACHER FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Gerry and Mary-Belle Pulvermacher.
George Kadar by Gerry and Mary-Belle Pulvermacher.

FLORENCE AND GDALYAH ROSENFELD ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Hy Calof by Florence and Gdalyah Rosenfeld.

FRANCES AND MORTON ROSS FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Hy Calof by Fran and Mort Ross.
Gerry Levitz by Fran and Mort Ross.

SAMUEL AND RUTH ROTHMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor.

SHELLEY AND SID ROTHMAN FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Hy Calof by Shelley Rothman.
Mazel Tov to:
Marjorie and Michael Feldman on the birth of their grandson by Shelley Rothman.
Sharon Rosentveig on the engagement of their son Joel to Emily Medd by Shelley Rothman and family.
Roz and Steve Fremeth on the marriage of their son Adam to Rachel Maya by Shelley Rothman.

JOSEPH AND MOLLY SADINSKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Carol Spiro by Larry and Yvonne Sadinsky.

GABY SASSOON FOR VICTIMS OF TERROR IN ISRAEL MEMORIAL FUND

In appreciation to:
Anna-Lee Chipmut by Jeff and Maureen Katz.

AL AND BETTY SEGAL MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Rabbi Weiss by Gail and Ned Segal.

ABRAHAM AND MARY SHAFFER MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Myra and Sam Krane on the engagement of Joshua and Jaclyn Schwartzman by Dan and Marilyn Kimmel.
Sheldon and Sonia Shaffer on the engagement of Joshua and Jaclyn Schwartzman by Dan and Marilyn Kimmel.

SOL AND ZELAINE SHINDER ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Zelaine Shinder by Ooris and Richard Stern; by Ari and Jill Beardmore; by Cally and Sid Kardash; and by Doris and Steve Ramphos.
In memory of:
Doris Finn by Sol and Zelaine Shinder.

LORNE AND LAURIE SHUSTERMAN FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Norma Cluff by Lorne and Laurie Shusterman.

JACK AND SARAH SILVERSTEIN FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Hy Calof by Jack and Sarah Silverstein.
Mazel Tov to:
Josh Engel on his promotion by Jack and Sarah Silverstein.

LOUIS AND STELLA SLACK MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Elissa Iny by Myra and Lester Aronson.
In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Myra and Lester Aronson.

JACK AND LINDA SMITH ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:
Inez Smith, a loving mother by Leslie Smith.

BOBBY STEINBERG MEMORIAL FUND

Congratulations to:
Ron Prehogan on his accomplishments by the Bross and Steinberg families.
Avalice Prehogan on the "I won't back down" article by Gary and Sharon Steinberg.
Brazau Sella LLP on receiving the Outstanding Small Business Philanthropist Award by Gary and Sharon Steinberg.

DORIS AND RICHARD STERN FAMILY FUND

Birthday wishes to:
Doris Stern by Roz and Amie Kimmel.
In memory of:
Hy Calof by Ooris and Richard Stern.

Anniversary wishes to:

Sol and Laya Shabinsky by Doris and Richard Stern.
Condolences to:
Louise Shap and Jeff Miller and family on the loss of a dear father, grandfather and friend by Ooris and Richard Stern.

MAX AND PHYLLIS STERNTHAL FAMILY FUND

Speedy recovery wishes to:
Irving Taylor by Max and Phyllis Sternthal.
In memory of:
Hy Calof by Max and Phyllis Sternthal.
Sarah Swedler by Max and Phyllis Sternthal.
Ethel Shara by Max and Phyllis Sternthal; by Sandy Sternthal and Howard Burack; by Ezra, Aviva, Jonah, David and Judy Mishkel; by Ben and Marjorie Achbar; and by Blossom Reed.
Harold M. Schneider by Max and Phyllis Sternthal; and by Sandy Sternthal and Howard Burack.

IRVING AND ETHEL TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

R'fuah Sh'lemah to:
Irving Taylor by Dorothy Nadolny; by Bill and Marilyn Newman; by Alan Freed; and by Barbara and Sid Cohen.

SUSAN WEISMAN AND JEFF TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Hy Calof by Susan Weisman, Jeff, Josh, Bram and Oari Taylor.
Mazel Tov to:
Rabbi Zischia and Lauren Shaps and family on Yoey and Sam's engagement by Susan Weisman, Jeff, Josh, Bram and Dani Taylor.

BARBARA AND GERALD THAW ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Ooris Finn by Barbara and Gerry Thaw.
Mazel Tov to:
Evelyn Rivers by Barbara and Gerry Thaw.

LISE AND MARK THAW FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Ooris Finn by Lise, Mark, Alayna and Bryan Thaw.

STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

Speedy recovery to:
Gail Victor by Roslyn and Amie Kimmel; by Sandra and Norman Slover; by Susan, Gillie and Ellie Vered; by Elaine Wolfish; by Libby and Stan Katz; by Barbara and Sid Cohen; and by Carole and Norman Zagerman.
Irving Taylor by Stephen and Gail Victor.

RUTH AND JOSEPH VINER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Ruth and Joseph Viner.
Celia Bookman by Ruth and Joseph Viner.
Condolences to:
Max Sternthal on the loss of his sister by Ruth and Joseph Viner.
Birthday wishes to:
Jerry Mayerson by Ruth and Joseph Viner.

MIRIAM AND LOUIS WEINER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Ooris Finn by Miriam and Louis Weiner.

MILDRED AND PERCY WEINSTEIN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Millie Weinstein.
Speedy recovery to:
Irving Taylor by Millie Weinstein.

ROBERT WENER AND LYNNE ORECK WENER FAMILY FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Shelli and Steven Kimmel on the recent marriage of Leora and Ben by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

IRVING AND DIANE WEXLER FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Max Zellikowitz by Carole, Sunny, Felicia, Adam and Jenn Segal.
Gerry Levitz by Carole, Sunny and Felicia Segal.
Mazel Tov to:
Andy and Sandy Siggner on the engagement of Becca and Mike by Carole, Sunny and Felicia Segal.

SAM AND HELENE ZARET MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Shelli and Steven Kimmel on Leora's marriage to Ben by Debi and Neil Zaret.

BELLA ZELIKOW - HILLEL LODGE PHYSICAL THERAPY FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Norman and Myrna Barwin.

NATHAN, DAVID AND MAX ZELIKOVITZ FAMILIES FUND

In memory of:
Max Zelikowitz by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor.

ZIPES KARANOFKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Sarah Swedler by Rick and Helen Zipes.
Ooris Finn by Rick and Helen Zipes.
R'fuah Sh'lemah to:
Andy Siggner by Rick and Helen Zipes.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

MARA BOSLOY B'NAI MITZVAH FUND
Anniversary wishes to:
Bernie and Karyn Farber by Judy, Jonathan, Mara and Rebecca Bosloy.

JORDAN SAMUEL FINN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

R'fuah Sh'lemah to:
Blanche Osterer by Norman and Isabel Lesh.

COREY KLEIN MITZVAH FUND

In memory of:
Hy Calof by Jack and Wendy Klein.
Esther Sadinsky by Jack and Wendy Klein.
Mazel Tov to:
Michael Landau and Faye Goldman on the occasion of Meera's Bat Mitzvah by Jack and Wendy Klein.
Steven and Shelli Kimmel on the recent marriage of Leora and Ben by Jack and Wendy Klein.

LIEFF FAMILY B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

In memory of:
Esther Sadinsky by Francie and Norman Lieff.
Congratulations to:
Leon Gluzman on the Kortsak Tribute in his honour by Francie and Norman Lieff.

DANA AND REMI PEARL B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

In appreciation to:
Ockel and Rony Podolsky by Gita and Jerry Pearl.

HANNAH SACHS B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Oundi and Lyon Sachs on their granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah by Sally and Elliott Levitan.
Birthday wishes to:
Dundi Sachs by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

Contributions may be made online at www.OJCF.ca or by contacting Carolene Preap at 613-798-4696 extension 232, Monday to Friday. We have voice mail. Our e-mail address is donation@ojcf.ca. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with an official receipt for income tax purposes. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Amex.



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WHAT'S GOING ON

December 7, 2009 to January 24, 2010

Happy Chanukah to the
Ottawa Jewish Community



WEDNESDAYS
Seniors' Drawing Class, sponsored by Jewish Family Services, 2255 Carling Avenue, Suite 300, 2:00 pm. Info: 613-722-2225, ext. 325.

THURSDAYS
Lomir Reydn Yiddish, a Yiddish-speaking group hosted by Jewish Family Services meets the 2nd and 4th week of every month. Will meet Dec. 11, Dec. 25, Jan. 11, Jan. 25, 2255 Carling Avenue, Suite 300, 10:00 am. Info: 613-722-2225, ext. 325.

CANDLELIGHTING BEFORE

Dec 11 ☆ 4:02 pm
Dec 18 ☆ 4:03 pm
Dec 25 ☆ 4:06 pm
Jan 1 ☆ 4:12 pm
Jan 8 ☆ 4:19 pm
Jan 15 ☆ 4:27 pm
Jan 22 ☆ 4:37 pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8
Jewish Student Career Clinic, sponsored by Jewish Family Services. Topic: cover letter preparation and editing. Hillel House, 284 Laurier Ave. E, 5:00 pm. Info: 613-722-2225, ext. 500.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
Chanukah Soiree and Raffle, sponsored by Beit Tikkah of Ottawa. The community is invited to an evening of celebration, food and raffle draws in support of a barrier-free shul, 15 Chartwell Ave, 7:30 pm. Info: 613-723-1800.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13
Monthly breakfast and lecture series sponsored by Congregation Machzikei Hadas, featuring Brian Arenau on "One financial adviser's view of the financial crisis and how to navigate your way to successful financial goals." Every-one welcome, 2310 Virginia Drive, 9:15 am. Info: 613-521-9700.
Chanukah Spirit, sponsored by the SJCC and Jewish Educa-

tion through Torah. Fun for all ages, 1:00 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 303.

Martini's and Menorah's, sponsored by Jewish Education through Torah, Great Canadian Theatre Company, 1233 Wellington St. W., 7:00 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 247.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16
Seniors' Chanukah Luncheon, a joint program of the Kibitz Club and Let's Do Lunch, features magician, music, door prizes, latkes, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 12:00 pm. Info: 613-789-3501, ext. 223.
Adult Chanukah Party, sponsored by Jewish Education through Torah, 6:30 pm. Info: 613-798-9818, ext. 247.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23
Wonderful Wednesdays Chanukah Celebration of Jewish Music with Natasha Gelfand and special guest, sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310

Virginia Drive, 12:00 pm. Info: 613-521-9700.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1
Shabbat Dinner with Singing, sponsored by Congregation Machzikei Hadas. The community is invited to a congregant-led participatory Kabbalat service with singing, and Zemirot singing during dinner, 2310 Virginia Drive, 4:20 pm. Info: 613-521-9700.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7
The Kibitz Club, sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Congregation Beth Shalom, features lunch and presentation by Kathy Riley of OC Transpo, who will discuss accessibility and public transportation issues. Guests will be able to obtain various photo IDs (priority seating, attendant card, Para Transpo) and seniors' bus passes, 151 Chapel Street, 12:00 pm. Info: 613-722-2225, ext. 223.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12
Jewish Student Career

Clinic, sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Hillel Ottawa. Topic: Interviewing Skills, Hillel House, 284 Laurier Ave. E., 5:00 pm. Info: 613-722-2225, ext. 500.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17
Monthly breakfast and lecture series sponsored by Congregation Machzikei Hadas, featuring the Honourable David McGuinty, MP for Ottawa South and Liberal Party environment critic, who will review a potential post-Copenhagen international treaty and Canada's response. Everyone welcome, 2310 Virginia Drive, 9:15 am. Info: 613-521-9700.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20
Let's Do Lunch, sponsored by Jewish Family Services and Congregation Agudath Israel, presentation by Anthony Berman on the lyrics of Leonard Cohen, 1400 Coldrey Avenue, 12:00 pm. Info: 613-728-3501.

Shalom
Ottawa

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
Shalom Ottawa, our community program on Rogers 22, 12:00 pm.

COMING SOON

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28
To Build and Be Built/Interfaith Honoree Evening, sponsored by State of Israel Bonds. Honourees: Anna-Lee Chiprout, Pastor John Raymer, Dr. James Lunney, MP. Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 7:30 pm. Info: 613-792-1142.

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Ottawa InfoCentre. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should send the information to InfoCentre coordinator Benite Steniatycki via e-mail at bstieniatycki@jewishottawa.com or fax at 613-798-4695. She can also be reached by telephone at 613-798-4644. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public.

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Condolences

Condolences are extended to the families of:

Isak Barzilay	Joseph Kurtzman
Devora Duniz	Gilbert Levine
Doris Finn	Hugh Shabsove
Lillian Kahan	Rosalie G. Shore

May their memory be a blessing always.

The CONDOLENCE COLUMN is offered

as a public service to the community. There is no charge.

For a listing in this column, please call Carolene Preap, 798-4696, ext. 232.

Voice mail is available.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

2010

JANUARY 6 FOR JANUARY 25
JANUARY 20 FOR FEBRUARY 8
FEBRUARY 3 FOR FEBRUARY 22
FEBRUARY 17 FOR MARCH 8